

THE JERUSALEM POST

Israel's leading electronic daily
rated 6th news site in the world
<http://www.jpost.co.il>
THE JERUSALEM POST INTERNET EDITION
is waiting for you!

FOR YOUR SHOPPING CONVENIENCE
THE JERUSALEM POST BOOK DEPT
is open
Sun. - Tues. 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Fridays 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
10 Harav Kook St.
Downtown Jerusalem
Tel. 02-6241282

VOLUME LXV, NUMBER 19480 MONDAY, JANUARY 13, 1997

The New York Times
Corruption Lite, Democracy's Junk Food
8-page pullout



Sharon Stone is diabolical
Movie Review, Page 5



Thousands rally against Bulgarian gov't
Page 4

Index

Arts & Entertainment	5
Business	8
Cinema/TV	11
Crossword	11
Opinion	6
Sports	10

Bar-On gives up A-G post

By SARAH HONG and EVELYN GORDON

In a dramatic about-turn, newly appointed Attorney General Roni Bar-On last night informed Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu that he will not take up his post.

His decision came while the High Court of Justice had in effect suspended the appointment while waiting to decide on a petition against it, and followed three days of controversy since his election by the cabinet on Friday.

State Attorney Edna Arbel has been named acting attorney-general until a new candidate is found.

Netanyahu issued a statement last night expressing regret over Bar-On's decision and his high regard for him. "Bar-On was callously wronged through the unrestrained personal offensive against him, which was unleashed solely because of his political views," the statement said.

MK Dalja Izkiz issued a statement on behalf of the Labor Party deriding Bar-On's abortive term of office as "further evidence of the ineptitude and negligence with which Netanyahu is running the country."

Knesset Law Committee chairman Shaul Yahalom praised Bar-On's decision, saying it reflected to his credit, and called on the cabinet to appoint a candidate of the highest professional stature.

Meretz Party leader MK Yossi Sarid said Bar-On's resignation "proves that at least a few people had underestimated him." He called on Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi to resign as well.

Bar-On's decision was announced by a somber Hanegbi in the middle of Channel 2's evening news.

Looking almost teary-eyed, Hanegbi related that Bar-On had just telephoned him and the prime minister to say he was withdrawing. According

to Hanegbi, "The move was completely at Bar-On's own initiative. The prime minister in fact sought to dissuade him and even asked that he at least wait to hear the High Court ruling. I implored him in a similar vein, but to no avail."

Hanegbi said Bar-On had told him and Netanyahu that he "didn't want the prime minister and the entire government to draw fire on his account, and that he would much rather forgo the position than hurt the government."

"As Hanegbi sees it, 'It is a great shame that Bar-On was unable to prove himself and occupy high office merely because he does not belong to that exclusive leftist elite of Israeli society. His unexpected decision resulted from the demonic whirlpool, from the exultant witch hunt which suddenly and so savagely erupted around a blameless man who had done no wrong and was given no chance. This man was injured without any cause via a merciless media onslaught and a cynical political character assassination, which should occasion much soul-searching.'

Hanegbi said Netanyahu fully agrees that Bar-On was victimized by "a vicious, organized, and well-orchestrated blitz against him for no fault of his own, other than the stain of his association with the Likud."

It cannot be, Hanegbi continued, "that Israeli society would deny a man like Bar-On the opportunity to function even for one day and prove by even one decision that he is worthy of the appointment, and this only because he is a party member and because of his dreadful original sin of being affiliated with the Likud and Betar."

"I wish the High Court, despite Bar-On's decision, would hand down its decision on whether tens of thousands of party members in our country are disqualified from public

(Continued on Page 4)

Hussein compromise may clinch Hebron deal

By DAVID MAKOVSKY and JOHN IMMANUEL

Jordan's King Hussein yesterday secured a key Palestinian concession that appears to have brought the sides much closer to a Hebron agreement. He then flew with it from Gaza to Tel Aviv for a late night meeting with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

"We can envision the end of the negotiations in sight," Netanyahu said after meeting with Hussein. "Because of the important initiative His Majesty took, we have made considerable progress."

Earlier in Gaza, Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat agreed to Hussein's proposal that Israel could prolong its three-stage withdrawal from West Bank rural areas, narrowing the gap on the key sticking point in the talks, according to a PA official.

Hussein put forward a compromise proposal on a critical future IDF pullback from the West Bank in the middle of 1998. A pullback in mid-1998 would mark the midway point between Israeli and Palestinian demands.

If Netanyahu agrees to the proposal, a meeting with Arafat to sign the Hebron pullback agreement is expected today, said one official. In Tel Aviv, however, Netanyahu, Hussein, and US special envoy Dennis Ross were upbeat but uncommittal late last night, saying some work remained.

"I leave here confident that everything will move in the right direction... a fresh beginning to continue the work to achieve the kind of peace and the kind of future we seek," Hussein told reporters after a 90-minute meeting with Netanyahu.

"We are closer than we were," said Ross, adding that he would now remain in the region, despite earlier plans to return to Washington.

The proposal was formulated yesterday during Hussein's visit to Gaza, his first since 1967, for talks with Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat.

The compromise proposal was worked out during seven hours of talks in Gaza and came amid phone calls to Netanyahu, US Secretary of State Warren Christopher, Ross, and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. It is expected to call for a third Israeli



Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu greets Jordan's King Hussein last night in Tel Aviv.

(Dana Sierman/Israel Sun)

pullback from the West Bank sometime between March 1998 and the end of 1998.

An official in the Prime Minister's Office saluted Hussein. "One has to admire the king, who is willing to risk his prestige by trying to reach an agreement, just as he did by attending the Washington summit" several months ago, he said.

According to the Prime Minister's Office, Jordanian officials notified Jerusalem Saturday night that the king would visit Gaza the following day, and if successful in his peacemaking, he would be amenable to meeting Netanyahu later in the day.

Hussein and Netanyahu spoke yesterday morning, and after he obtained a compromise proposal

in Gaza, Jordanian officials told the Prime Minister's Office in the afternoon that there was a basis for a meeting with Netanyahu. There was a flurry of phone calls yesterday among Gaza, Jerusalem, Washington, and Cairo. The Tel Aviv meeting last night caused Ross to cancel his plans to leave the region.

At the heart of yesterday's controversy was the question of whether the two sides could find common ground on the issue of future IDF pullbacks from the West Bank beyond a Hebron deal.

Arafat has wanted all pullbacks to conclude by September as called for in the Oslo 2 accords. Netanyahu's proposal was for a third pullback by the end of the interim period, ending in the

spring of 1999, so it would overlap with the deadline for resolving final status issues.

For Arafat, a Jordan-brokered agreement would underline the commitment of Hussein to the Israel-PLO Oslo accords, which he did not like when they were first announced. It would emphasize that the Hebron agreement was a multilateral affair rather than a bilateral agreement.

For Netanyahu, a Hussein-brokered agreement would help to restore his initial warm relations with the monarch, which turned frosty after the Western Wall Tunnel crisis.

The US put forward a compromise proposal last week calling for the pullbacks by some point in 1998, but deliberately avoided

giving an exact month.

Sources say that during a meeting in Paris between Labor Party leader Shimon Peres in Paris over the weekend, Arafat notified him that he was willing to compromise on having the third pullback occur by March 1998.

Arafat told visitors last week that he interprets the Oslo 2 agreement as giving him no less than 80 percent of the West Bank before the final status talks begin. Netanyahu has yet to put forward the government's interpretation. According to Oslo 2, by the end of the three pullbacks, Israel would redeploy in settlements and "specified military locations."

Early yesterday, the US Embassy announced that Ross

(Continued on Page 9)

Regional council says IDF dodges Katyushas... and city taxes

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

The regional council of Asher in the northwest corner of the country is demanding the IDF positions guarding the residents along the border with Lebanon pay rates (armon) for taking up its land.

Paying municipal rates to the city of Tel Aviv and other cities in central area is one thing, since the IDF bases there take up large tracts of valuable land and the cities often extend their services to the army in the form of garbage pickup, and so on.

But demanding that the army pay rates for isolated, mountain-top positions along the Lebanon border has some generals hopping mad.

"It's a Kafkaesque situation. We are protecting them and they want us to pay," said one senior officer. "It's unheard of."

Another senior officer accused the civilian leadership in the north of immorally trying to milk the army out of money.

"It's incredible," said the officer, who spoke on condition of anonymity. "They hear we are paying armon (rates) in the center of the country and now they want us to pay for the

border - they don't pay? Of course they pay," said Gilad Inbar, secretary of the Asher Regional Council. "What are we to do? Everyone has to pay taxes."

(Continued on Page 9)

B.T.C. Travel & Tours
REGULAR AND PRIVATE TOURS TO **JORDAN**

- 1, 2, 3 and 4 Day Organized Tours
- Individuals • Friends • Families
- Small Groups • Large Groups
- Excellent Itineraries
- Guaranteed Departures

Other Tours Available: **EGYPT** (2 to 10 day tours), **SINAI** (1 to 4 day tours), **ISRAEL** (Daily/semi-daily tours)

02-6233990

177-022-2278
Call Free
THE JERUSALEM POST
Subscription Sales and Service

BE A WINNER

Fill out this entry form today, return it to The Jerusalem Post and participate in our weekly raffle for valuable gift certificates from Kitan Center, Golf and Levi's stores! Every Friday in The Post, we'll announce three new prize winners! 1st Prize: NIS 700 value, 2nd Prize NIS 200 value, 3rd Prize NIS 100 value.

The more you read The Post...the better your chances are to Be A Winner!

"Be a Winner" Contest, The Jerusalem Post Circulation Dept.
P.O.B. 81, Jerusalem 91000

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ Tel. _____

The shop I buy The Jerusalem Post from: _____
 I subscribe to The Post

MO

Only original entry forms accepted, no photocopies, fax copies or separate sheets of paper. Campaign valid through February 21, 1997. Entry form will not be held over from previous week draws. Jerusalem Post employees, their families and distribution agents are exempt from participating.

KITAN Golf LEVI'S

NEWS

in brief

Thousands pray for rain

Thousands of people prayed for rain at a commemoration in Netivot in honor of the 13th anniversary of the Baba Sali's death. The ceremony took place at the Baba Sali's gravesite. Nearby, the followers of the North African rabbi planted the first date tree that will be part of a \$5 million Jewish National Fund park. *Itim*

SLA releases 8 prisoners

The South Lebanese Army militia freed eight detainees as a humanitarian gesture for Ramadan. SLA command announced yesterday.

The prisoners were freed starting Saturday from the Khiam detention center inside the security zone in southern Lebanon. Ramadan, the month of fasting, began Friday. More than 100 prisoners are believed to be held in Khiam prison, which is 5 kilometers north of the Israeli border. *AP*

New Health Ministry chief scientist named

Health Minister Yehoshua Matza yesterday appointed Prof. Bracha Rager as ministry chief scientist, replacing Prof. Michael Silberman, who ended his tenure on December 31. Rager, an immunologist, lectures and conducts research at Ben-Gurion University. She studied microbiology at Tel Aviv University and received her doctorate from the University of London. She has been a member of the board of directors of Teva Pharmaceuticals. *Judy Siegel*

High Court to hear Olmert suspension petition

A special panel of five justices will consider a petition to the High Court of Justice demanding that Ehud Olmert be forced to step down from his position as Jerusalem mayor, since he is under indictment in the Likud's fictitious receipts affair.

The petition, filed by the Amital organization, asked the court to set a precedent regarding the service of mayors charged with offenses that amount to a public disgrace. It is unimaginable that a person charged with such a serious crime should serve in a sensitive public position like the Jerusalem mayoralty, the petition said. *Itim*

Teenage girl saved in Judean Desert

Holon high school pupil Shirli Hezki, 16, was rescued yesterday after she slipped and fell while hiking on a cliff above Nahal Mashash in the Judean Desert. Classmates accompanying her ran for help and alerted officials at the Metzukei Dragot Field School, who summoned the Ein Gedi Regional Rescue Team. Rescuers rappelled into the wadi and took her to Jerusalem's Hadassah-University Hospital, where she was reported in satisfactory condition. *Itim*

Espionage suspect admits KGB ties

Anatoly Gendler, 47, the electrical engineer from Herzliya accused of spying for Russia, told Tel Aviv District Court yesterday he had maintained contacts with the KGB and the Russian government, but denied these were as serious as the prosecution claims. He also denied trying to harm the security of the state. Gendler claimed he had no choice but to spy for Russia for 10 years after immigrating here with his family in 1981, since his parents and those of his wife remained in Russia as virtual hostages. *Itim*

Herzog to head state jubilee council

Former president Chaim Herzog yesterday agreed in principle to head the public council that will supervise events marking the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the state. Maj.-Gen. (res.) Yossi Peled is to head the non-profit association that will be responsible for organizing the events. *Itim*

Mordechai says he can't assure safety of Hebron Jews

By **ARIEH O'SULLIVAN**

The emerging agreement on Hebron cannot provide absolute safety for the Jewish residents there, Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai said yesterday. "If someone thinks that there is a safe solution in Hebron, they are, in my opinion, either mistaken or misled. There is nothing absolute in Hebron. In the same city where a

group of Jews lives among a Palestinian population, who live right next to each other, house touching house, where they travel the same roads, move in the same places, there is no technical way to make a separation and certainly not give total security," Mordechai told a gathering at the Israel Press Club in Tel Aviv. "The best way I see for living in Hebron is for both sides ... to come

to a situation where they know how to coexist with mutual respect," Mordechai said. "Anything else will bring about friction and conflict and bloodshed and can be very dangerous." "Hebron is part of a process that was agreed upon and we have to progress in order to reduce the friction and conflict as much as possible," he added. Mordechai also said that the civil-

ian and military details of the Hebron deal were wrapped up and written down during a 10-hour meeting last Wednesday at the home of US Ambassador Martin Indyk. "Maybe we, the government, myself, believe that we could have achieved a different, a better agreement. But there is maneuverability within this agreement," Mordechai said. Mordechai explained that the

agreement allows for Jews to reach the Cave of Machpela freely and for Jewish residents of Hebron to move about in relative security. He also said it maintains civilian rights for Jewish residents of the city. It also calls for a buffer zone between Israeli and Palestinian forces to avoid "misunderstandings and threats, be they real or perceived, which would bring about a total flare up."



Justice Ministry workers put away the spread that had been set up to celebrate Roni Bar-On's first day as attorney-general yesterday following the High Court's decision to delay the appointment. (Brian Hecker)

Eitan dismisses talk of abandoning Jordan Valley settlements

Agriculture Minister Rafael Eitan yesterday attacked a recent coalition-opposition understanding regarding the Jordan Valley as contravening government policy and said it should be ignored.

Speaking on a visit to the valley yesterday morning, Eitan said the understandings reached between coalition chairman MK Michael Eitan and Labor MK Yossi Beilin "do not coincide with government policy, and if anyone is conducting such talks you should not pay him any attention."

Eitan told farmers and settlement leaders that he is committed to developing the region and that his ministry would give priority to research and development, land cultivation, and bringing new settlers to live there.

The minister made his comments while addressing the dedication ceremony of the Ya'acobi Experimental Farm, named in memory of researcher Zvi Ya'acobi. His remarks followed a discussion of

the Michael Eitan-Yossi Beilin understandings in Friday's cabinet meeting.

Eitan told the audience that the cabinet had expressed clear reservations regarding the understandings. He insisted the importance of the Jordan Valley had not diminished in the eyes of the government.

Last Thursday, the Jordan Valley settlements were in an uproar over reports that the understandings made no mention of their remaining under Israeli sovereignty in a final settlement with the Palestinians.

The Eitan-Beilin document put forward two scenarios: under one, the valley would be designated a security zone; in the other, there would be an IDF defense zone in which a division would be stationed along the length of the Jordanian border. Neither case mentions retaining Israeli sovereignty over the settlements. (Itim)

Mordechai tells Callahan: Don't cut military aid

By **ARIEH O'SULLIVAN**

Visiting US Congressman Sonny Callahan, the chairman of the subcommittee on foreign aid who backs slashing foreign assistance, heard from Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai yesterday about the threats facing Israel.

Meeting in his Tel Aviv office yesterday, Mordechai spent two hours telling Callahan, a Republican from Alabama, that Israel appreciates and needs the \$1.8 billion annual military aid it receives from the United States.

According to Defense Ministry sources, Mordechai briefed Callahan on the arms build-up among the Arab states in the Middle East and warned the congressman of the intensive efforts by Iran to achieve nuclear capability.

"We appreciate the support they give us and the decision of the (American) administration to give us qualitative, technical priority for advanced weapons to the IDF so that the State of Israel can feel that it is capable of ensuring its security and look toward the future," Mordechai said after the meeting.

"I think they contribute significantly and we will understandably do our utmost to deal with the threats," Mordechai said.

Mordechai expects to travel to the United States in April to meet with his American counterpart Bill Cohen, who takes over this month from outgoing Secretary of Defense William Perry. While Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has said he wants to wean Israel off the \$1.2 billion in annual US civilian aid, Mordechai

strongly opposes cutting back on the military aid at any time in the foreseeable future, defense sources said.

Callahan, who is leading an eight-member Congressional delegation on a Middle East sweep that will include Egypt, Jordan and Morocco, also met with Netanyahu.

ARRIVALS

The following leaders of WIZO federations, to attend the plenary sessions of the World WIZO Executive: Aida Margulies, Amalia Polack - ARGENTINA; Zosia Mercer - AUSTRALIA; Edith Landerman, Edith Kalcz, Rita Dauber - AUSTRIA; Esther Liszyc - BELGIUM; Ana Malena Starac, Marina Gottlieb - BRAZIL; Stella Hillel - BULGARIA; Pat Alpert, Ly Frank, Naomi Frankenburg, Esther Mallow - CANADA; Juanita M. De Wechter - CHILE; Erica Jukstova - CZECH REPUBLIC; Kaja Sardo - DENMARK; Rebecka Blumberg - ESTONIA; Leena Obstbaum - FINLAND; Michale Benvenist, Ellen Djan - FRANCE; Elizabeth Gross, Hellen Israel - GERMANY; Ruth Sotnick, Barbara Harding, Shoshana Schreiber - GREAT BRITAIN; Ludmila Seitel - GREECE; Annelies Cohn-Erwelmann, Betty Heerje-Halberstadt - HOLLAND; Erzi Simon, Susenne Javor - HUNGARY; Zita Ardi, Seria Sinal Krasnar, Bianca Finzi - ITALY; Hana Finkelstein - LATVIA; Sima Kopis, Sully London - MEXICO; Miriam Rodnar - NORWAY; Mushe Kirsh, Annette Price - SOUTH AFRICA; Charlotte Etlinger - SWEDEN; Lucie Gideon, Gerie Laurie - SWITZERLAND; Edda Brenna - URUGUAY; Marceles Ivcher, Roella Rotley - USA.

IN THE NEWS

Author: Roni Bar-On is a heavy gambler

By **MICHAL YUDELMAN**

Before Roni Bar-On's surprise announcement last night that he was withdrawing his candidacy for the coveted post of attorney-general, the media spent the day delving into his personal life and interviewing anybody who had anything to say about him. Most of it was far from complimentary. Bar-On is a heavy gambler and a regular visitor of casinos abroad, author Irit Linor said on Shelly Yehimovitz's Israel Radio talk show, *It's All Talk*.

Linor said she met "a pleasant group of Israeli men, most of them attorneys from Jerusalem" in London last year, who had come for a combined visit of "shopping in the morning, theater in the afternoon and gambling at night." She added that "this was a group of old friends, who travel regularly abroad without their wives." The group leader was Bar-On, "whom I must note I didn't see at the theater, but at the casino he most certainly was."

Linor, who admitted "I had never been to a casino," accepted their invitation to accompany them to the Kitz casino, where

she saw Bar-On in action. Bar-On and one other lawyer were the two heavy gamblers in the group and "they even boasted of the large sums they bet on every evening, talking about thousands of dollars a night. They were in the casino the previous night as well, and intended to come the next evening too. Since I was quite bored, I sat and talked to the casino manager. He told me that these are regular customers."

Two other members of the group were Bar-On's office manager Rami Koc and Attorney Yoel Shabtai. Chairman of the Knesset's Constitution Committee, MK Shaul Yahalom, of the National Religious Party, said, "The prime minister and justice minister should have understood that the attorney-general must be a man of special qualities, at the pinnacle of professional performance and immaculate in his public and private conduct. Gambling in a casino is not in keeping with a senior office in the civil service. For me it's enough that Finance Minister Dan Meridor, who was formerly a justice minister and who knows Bar-On, said the man is not suitable."

RAMAT BEIT SHEMESH

3 rooms	\$123,000
4 room duplex	\$135,000
4 rooms + storeroom + shelter + 35 sq.m. balcony	\$153,000

* Govt. grant of \$15,000 to those eligible
Nof Real Estate Tel. 02-537-5161 Fax. 02-537-5162

Buy the stocks no one wants now. They'll all want the profits later.

The current economic climate has Israeli companies trading far below their real value on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange. That's the classic time to invest in inexpensive stocks with great growth potential.

CommStock's T.A.S.E. experts can help you locate undervalued stocks and other excellent investment opportunities. Our experienced professionals will build a portfolio for you with an investment as low as \$15,000.

For a complimentary consultation with no obligation, please call Eli Cohen, Manager of our Israeli Securities Division, at (02) 6244963.

COMMSTOCK
EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO SUCCEED

CommStock Trading Ltd. (Est. 1981)
Futures, Options, and Stock Brokers
Jerusalem: City Tower, 34 Ben Yehuda St.
Tel. 02-624-4963; Fax. 02-625-9515
Ramat Gan: Beit Silver, 7 Abba Hillel St.
Tel. 03-575-882627; Fax. 03-575-6990

E-mail: commstock@pobox.com http://www.commstock.co.il

We express our deep condolences to **Rony, Jeremy, Susan and Family** on the passing of **ABE KESSLER** Father and grandfather **Moshav Habonim** The funeral will take place at Rehovot Cemetery at 5 p.m., today, Monday, January 13, 1997.

In deep sorrow, we announce the death of our dear **ELISE EBERHARDT EISINGER** The bereaved families: **Bavarsky Eisinger Rahat**

The dedication of the tombstone for the Matriarch of our families **SARAH EATMAN ע"ה** will take place on Wednesday, 7 Shvat, at 4:15 p.m. We will meet at the Har Hamenuhot parking lot. **The Schechter, Bieberg and Freimerk families**

United Israel Appeal of Canada Inc. המגבית המאוחדת לישראל בקנדה אינץ its officers and staff extend sincere condolences to **Bilha Piamenta** on the passing of her beloved father **EZRA PIAMENTA** **Harvey Wolfe** President **Steve Airt** Executive Vice President **Max Blankstein** Chairman, I.R.C. **Annon Shiner** Director General

Handwritten signature or note at the bottom of the page.

Ruling against IDF sets gay rights precedent

By ESTHER HECHT

Soldiers, policemen, teachers and other members of the public sector stand to benefit from Friday's precedent-setting ruling in the case of Adir Steiner vs. the IDF.

The Tel Aviv District Court, sitting as an appeals committee, ruled the IDF must recognize Steiner as an IDF widower and grant him all benefits to which such widowers are entitled. Steiner's claim derived from his seven-year relationship with Col. Doron Maisel, who died of cancer in 1991 at age 46.

This precedent is even more far-reaching than ruling in the Yonatan Danilovitz case, according to Tel Aviv attorney Amnon Ben-Dror, who represented Steiner. The earlier case, in which El Al was ordered to grant the right to a free plane ticket to a same-sex partner, involved a private contract between a company and an individual. But Steiner's case involves the IDF, which must now provide a fiscal pension, paid by the Treasury, and so has implications for the entire public sector, Ben-Dror said.

For Steiner, however, the real victory has to do with the nonmonetary benefits. "One of

them is the right to be invited to memorial ceremonies. Another is to be allowed to write an entry in memory of Doron in *Sefer Yizkor* [the IDF's series of memorial volumes]," he said.

Immediately after he received the good news, Steiner phoned his mother to tell her the good news. Then he phoned Maisel's three daughters, who, he said, had supported him through the three-and-a-half year legal battle. And he tried to phone MK Yael Dayan, whom he referred to as "the mother of all homosexuals and lesbians in Israel."

Although some laws pertaining to survivors' pensions refer specifically to "husband" or "wife," others, as in the case of the IDF, refer to "partner."

Steiner, 30, said that from the age of 18 he was Maisel's "partner" or "common-law spouse."

Ben-Dror argued that the law does not say common-law spouses cannot be of the same sex and that the IDF's position constituted discrimination and a violation of the principle of equality.

The committee's reasoned decision stated that if the appellant were a woman, all the benefits would have been granted.

According to Steiner, three elements of his relationship with Maisel were relevant to the court's recognition of his status as a common-law spouse: shared finances, a shared home and public recognition of their relationship. The fact that he and Maisel had a monogamous relationship helped, too, though the sexual element was not the issue.

"The courts no longer get into a person's underpants," Steiner said. "Even a man and woman don't have to prove they had sexual relations to establish their status as common-law spouses."

A contract between partners is also helpful in establishing a survivor's entitlement to benefits, Ben-Dror said, and he strongly advises same-sex couples to draw up such contracts.

Steiner, who works for a PR firm, was shattered by Maisel's death and was moved to take action only a year-and-a-half later, following the Danilovitz ruling. Since then, his life has changed radically, he said. "I've gone from being a person with no awareness of civil rights and uninvolved in anything to being involved in my own struggle, the struggle of homosexuals and lesbians in Israel, and the struggle of gay people around the world."



MK Eli Goldschmidt mans the controls of a diesel engine yesterday, as (from left) MKs Nissim Dahan, Rafi Eilat, and Ports and Railways Authority Director-General Shoshana Lerer look on.

All aboard for Knesset committee

By SYBIL EHRLICH

The Knesset Economics Committee yesterday got a glimpse of what the Ports and Railways Authority hopes will be a glorious future.

The committee, chaired by MK Eli Goldschmidt (Labor), set out on a two-day tour of the Negev starting with a guided tour of the Hasbala station in Tel Aviv. Authority director-general Shoshana Lerer explained that the station is part of a suburban network that will eventually include four or five stations in Tel Aviv.

The Knesset members traveled by regular train to Rehovot, where they were met by a bus for the next leg of their journey. During the bus trip, a video presentation showed future plans - an overview of the development of the ports of Haifa, Ashdod and Eilat, as well as the projected expansion of the railway network.

Pinhas Beo-Shaul, head of planning for the authority, presented the railways' master plan for the next 25 years and for the more immediate proposals.

A serious problem is the difficulty of constructing lines where land has not been allocated for that purpose. Local authorities generally prefer businesses and

hotels, which they see as more profitable.

The committee's tour continued by bus to Har Tzin, the southern outpost of Israel Railways, on a line used only for transporting minerals. The railway works in cooperation with the Rotem Company, which has mined phosphates in the area since 1952.

The site could easily accommodate a waste-disposal facility for the whole Tel Aviv area. Two trains a day - the equivalent of 40 road trucks - would be sufficient to transport all Tel Aviv's waste material.

The Dudaim and Hiriya dumps are to be closed in the near future, and the Har Tzin landfill site is the only spot in the country to which there is no environmental objection by local residents.

The Economics Committee then continued along the line of the future railway to Eilat from Har Tzin into the Arava.

It will be difficult to take the line into the town itself. The best solution, from an ecological, economic and geological point of view, officials said, is to build a terminus 7 kilometers north of Eilat. Freight would then be transported on a bypass road to the west of the town and into the port.

Government approves ovarian cancer drug

By JUDY SIEGEL

The Health Ministry approved the drug Taxol for use against ovarian cancer. Until now, the drug - made from the Pacific yew tree - has been approved only for women with a recurring ovarian tumor or whose cancer has spread to the ovaries from other organs.

The drug, made by Bristol-Myers Squibb - which invested over \$900 million in the medication - is the first anti-cancer agent in over 15 years to offer a significant increase in the short-term survival rate of women with ovarian cancer. The survival rate two or three years after women take Taxol is significantly higher than those who did not take the drug, but does not make much of a difference five years after treatment.

The European Union health authorities approved Taxol on the basis of US findings that showed that combining Taxol and cis-platin, a widely used chemotherapy drug, prolongs the survival time of patients with advanced ovarian cancer by over 50%, compared to other treatments. The side effects include temporary loss of hair, joint pain and low white blood-cell counts.

"The results of Taxol studies certain make a significant contribution, in the short run, to ovarian cancer patients," said Dr. Uzi Beller, head of the surgical and oncological gynecology unit at Jerusalem's Shaare Zedek Hospital, which introduced Taxol in this country in 1992.

In Israel, 350 new cases of ovarian cancer are discovered each year.

IMA slams plans to dismiss 500 immigrant doctors

By JUDY SIEGEL

The Israel Medical Association yesterday declared a work dispute to protest Finance Ministry plans to dismiss 500 immigrant doctors due to Health Ministry budget cuts.

The IMA yesterday sent an urgent letter to Knesset chairman Absorption Committee chairman MK Naomi Blumenthal and a telegram to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who was asked to intervene and ensure that the dismissals are not carried out.

IMA chairman Dr. Yoram Blachar said that despite promises it received from Absorption Minister Yuli Edelstein on the

issue, the state budget approved by the Knesset does not include funding to ensure that the immigrant doctors can remain in their jobs.

"Unfortunately, this isn't the first time the Treasury has led us by the nose; there are no other words to describe the situation," Blachar said.

"It's unthinkable that the Knesset committee would publicly receive official commitments and no one would stand behind them."

If the money is not found, Blachar said, the IMA will take organizational measures, including a strike.

No comment was available from the Finance Ministry.

CUT THEM OUT AND SAVE THEM
PRESENT THEM TO THE CASHIER AND RECEIVE AMAZING DISCOUNTS!

<p>ON THIS PAGE 9 PRODUCTS WITH A TOTAL SAVING OF 87 NIS</p> <p>GOLD INSTANT COFFEE Instead of 19.95 NIS Pay only 13.95 NIS</p> <p>6 NIS</p> <p>Coupon Code: 10120</p> <p>PRESENT THIS COUPON TO THE CASHIER, WITH AN EXTRA PURCHASE OF 10 NIS AND UP. COUPON VALID 12.1.97-21.1.97 (OR WHILE STOCKS LAST)</p>	<p>ALL TYPES OF TOASTY CHEESE Instead of 9.05 NIS Pay only 6.05 NIS</p> <p>3 NIS</p> <p>Coupon Code: 10114</p> <p>PRESENT THIS COUPON TO THE CASHIER, WITH AN EXTRA PURCHASE OF 10 NIS AND UP. COUPON VALID 12.1.97-21.1.97 (OR WHILE STOCKS LAST)</p>	<p>PITTED OLIVES DRAINED WEIGHT 650 gr. Instead of 15.95 NIS Pay only 8.95 NIS</p> <p>3 NIS</p> <p>Coupon Code: 10212</p> <p>PRESENT THIS COUPON TO THE CASHIER, WITH AN EXTRA PURCHASE OF 10 NIS AND UP. COUPON VALID 12.1.97-21.1.97 (OR WHILE STOCKS LAST)</p>
<p>ALL TYPES OF SARA LEE HOMESTYLE PIES</p> <p>6 NIS</p> <p>Coupon Code: 10182</p> <p>PRESENT THIS COUPON TO THE CASHIER, WITH AN EXTRA PURCHASE OF 10 NIS AND UP. COUPON VALID 12.1.97-21.1.97 (OR WHILE STOCKS LAST)</p>	<p>COATED WAFERS 1 kg Instead of 19.95 NIS Pay only 9.95 NIS</p> <p>10 NIS</p> <p>Coupon Code: 10205</p> <p>PRESENT THIS COUPON TO THE CASHIER, WITH AN EXTRA PURCHASE OF 10 NIS AND UP. COUPON VALID 12.1.97-21.1.97 (OR WHILE STOCKS LAST)</p>	<p>FERRERO ROCHER 200 gr. Instead of 16.95 NIS Pay only 9.95 NIS</p> <p>7 NIS</p> <p>Coupon Code: 10199</p> <p>PRESENT THIS COUPON TO THE CASHIER, WITH AN EXTRA PURCHASE OF 10 NIS AND UP. COUPON VALID 12.1.97-21.1.97 (OR WHILE STOCKS LAST)</p>
<p>SANO DOES IT ALL 2 Liters Instead of 16.95 NIS Pay only 8.95 NIS</p> <p>8 NIS</p> <p>Coupon Code: 10168</p> <p>PRESENT THIS COUPON TO THE CASHIER, WITH AN EXTRA PURCHASE OF 10 NIS AND UP. COUPON VALID 12.1.97-21.1.97 (OR WHILE STOCKS LAST)</p>	<p>GILAD TOILET PAPER 24 Rolls Instead of 16.99 NIS Pay only 11.99 NIS</p> <p>5 NIS</p> <p>Coupon Code: 10175</p> <p>PRESENT THIS COUPON TO THE CASHIER, WITH AN EXTRA PURCHASE OF 10 NIS AND UP. COUPON VALID 12.1.97-21.1.97 (OR WHILE STOCKS LAST)</p>	<p>PEDIGREE 10 kg Instead of 85.00 NIS Pay only 50.00 NIS</p> <p>35 NIS</p> <p>Coupon Code: 10137</p> <p>PRESENT THIS COUPON TO THE CASHIER, WITH AN EXTRA PURCHASE OF 10 NIS AND UP. COUPON VALID 12.1.97-21.1.97 (OR WHILE STOCKS LAST)</p>

NEW CREDIT LINE RUN TODAY PAY UNTIL 1.1.97

SUPER-SOLX HYPERCOOL

Bulgarian leader wants general election

By THALIA GRIFFITHS

SOFIA (Reuters) - Thousands of Bulgarians massed for a huge opposition rally yesterday and president-elect Petar Stoyanov said round-table talks were impossible unless the government gave in to demands for a general election.

Hundreds of cars flying blue opposition flags headed into Sofia from provincial towns for a rally on the seventh straight day of protests against the ex-communist ruling Socialists.

"The political atmosphere requires that the citizens' demand should be considered," Stoyanov, an opposition lawyer elected in November, said in a statement.

"I am appealing to the ruling party and the opposition to sit at the table for talks. This is now possible only if the Bulgarian Socialist Party goes to the talks having already decided to hold early parliamentary elections."

The demonstrations in central Sofia parallel long-running protests in Belgrade. However,

while Serbians are campaigning for an end to one-party rule, Bulgarians are protesting over more fundamental problems of poverty and crime.

Under Bulgaria's post-communist constitution, the president is a largely ceremonial figure but both Stoyanov and outgoing president Zhelev have taken firm anti-government stands in the crisis.

Zhelev declined to give the Socialists, who have a majority in parliament, a mandate to form a new government following the December 21 resignation of Prime Minister Zhan Videnov.

Thousands of demonstrators surrounded the Socialist party headquarters chanting, whistling and ringing bells. Protesters of all ages streamed into Sofia by car, bus and tram.

State radio said it was stepping up coverage and gave reports on the rally interspersed with Bulgarian songs whose lyrics called for courage and change.

Cars arriving from the provinces were greeted by a

Gypsy orchestra and escorted by police to the rally site in front of the gold-domed Alexander Nevsky cathedral.

The opposition, backed by trade unions and groups as diverse as the national Gypsies' union and the tiny rump Bulgarian Communist Party, has vowed to hold Belgrade-style daily protests until its demand for early elections is met.

The Socialists yesterday responded to Zhelev's refusal to ask them to form a new government by ruling out elections.

Bulgaria's Holy Synod ordered masses for peace to be said in Orthodox churches throughout the country after 196 people were injured in clashes on Friday and Saturday. Police used clubs to break up a 10-hour siege of parliament, with what a government statement described as "minimal use of force".

"After the night of the long clubs, not only deputies, students and policemen are bleeding, Bulgaria is bleeding," said an editorial in *Troud* daily.



Deadly derailment

Firemen carry the body of a passenger from the wreckage of the Milan to Rome express train, after it derailed near a station in Piacenza yesterday. At least eight people died when the high-speed train hurtled off the track and crashed into electricity pylons. (Reuters)

Mandela: ANC made mistakes

JOHANNESBURG (Reuters) - South African President Nelson Mandela admitted yesterday that his ruling African National Congress had made major mistakes in its nearly three years in power.

"We have of course made mistakes. Some of them very fundamental and serious," Mandela told several thousand people gathered to mark the 1912 founding of the ANC, South Africa's oldest political movement.

Among the errors he listed were a multi-million

rand musical intended to educate people about AIDS, which was scrapped as hugely wasteful, and a scandal which surrounded secret funds donated by businessmen to the party.

"The question is not so much whether one makes mistakes or not but rather whether...we are prepared to admit our mistakes and above all, to learn from and quickly rectify weaknesses in our work," he told the crowds gathered at a stadium near Bloemfontein in the central Free State province.

Greek FM meets Milosevic

BELGRADE (Reuters) - Greek Foreign Minister Theodoros Pangalos said yesterday after talks with rivals in Serbia's political crisis that a solution was possible based on an OSCE report that

upheld opposition victories in disputed elections.

He spoke after meetings with strongman Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic and leaders of the opposition Zajedno (Together)

movement, which has staged mass protests for eight straight weeks against the government's annulment of the vote.

The official news agency Tanjug said the Pangalos-Milosevic meeting was cordial but made clear the Serbian government resented growing international pressure to resolve the crisis, suggesting Pangalos' mission achieved little.

Two senior ministers in Milosevic's Socialist (SPS) government tacitly conceded on Saturday that certain results in the Serbia-wide municipal elections were "wrongly" cancelled, saying the "genuine and final" outcome must be respected.

But Zajedno reacted to that statement with skepticism and vowed to press on with demonstrations for democratic reform, even after meeting Pangalos. Thousands of whistle-blowing protesters rallied in central

Belgrade again yesterday.

Zajedno's victories in 14 of Serbia's 18 largest cities including the capital Belgrade and second largest city Nis were canceled by the SPS over alleged "irregularities".

A subsequent inquiry by a delegation, led by former Spanish prime minister Felipe Gonzalez on behalf of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe declared the elections valid, ratcheting up pressure on the SPS to admit defeat.

Pangalos had talks with the reclusive Milosevic shortly after arriving in Belgrade and then met Zoran Djindjic, Vuk Draskovic and Vesna Pese, Zajedno's leadership trioka.

"From what we have discussed up to now, it seems that the Gonzalez report has to be applied totally, including the city council of Belgrade," Pangalos told reporters.

Yeltsin increases activity

MOSCOW (AP) - President Boris Yeltsin remained in stable condition yesterday and has begun working on papers while recovering from pneumonia, the presidential press service said.

Doctors who examined the president yesterday said his temperature, blood pressure and pulse were all normal and that the course of treatment with antibiotics would continue.

The press service said that Yeltsin "has considerably increased his activity" and has begun doing paperwork in his suite in Moscow's Central Clinical Hospital. The chief Kremlin doctor, Sergei Mironov, said in a television interview that Yeltsin had caught a cold over the holidays a week ago that turned into pneumonia in both lungs.

BAR-ON

(Continued from Page 1)

office. If so, we would be penalizing all those who take a stand and follow their ideals, rather than just care about the latest car model or the color of their bathroom tiles at home."

Hanegbi argued that "there was nothing the matter with the way the appointment was presented to the cabinet. It was not unlike what has been done in the past. Perhaps in view of the increasing openness of our society, we should have informed the ministers better in advance, and this in any event is an oversight on my part alone."

The final impetus to Bar-On's decision, according to one source, was not the carping comments about his professional record, but the gossip and rumor-mongering which came into play yesterday. This culminated with a report of Bar-On's visit to a London casino and allegation he is a big-time gambler (See report, Page 2).

Hot on the heels of that came another report that he was a senior lecturer eight years ago for the I Am group, which some contend is a semi-cult. According to the source, Bar-On felt that his private life was being maliciously invaded by those determined to attack the government through him.


Earlier in the day, the High Court delayed Bar-On's taking up his new job pending the outcome of the petition against his appointment.

Justices Theodor Or, Yitzchak Zamir, and Mishael Cheshin were hearing a petition by MK Ophir Pines (Labor) to disqualify the appointment, on the grounds the cabinet had received information about Bar-On only at the last minute, and several ministers said they did not know enough to make an informed decision.

The petition also said Bar-On should be disqualified because of his party affiliation - he was a member of the Likud Central Committee until he resigned Saturday night.

In an affidavit submitted to the court, Hanegbi argued that the appointment was perfectly legal. The law states only that the attorney-general must be appointed by the cabinet and that he must be qualified to be a Supreme Court justice - meaning at least 10 years' experience as a lawyer - and both conditions were fulfilled in Bar-On's case, he said. There have also been cases in the past where the cabinet was given no prior notice before the vote, Hanegbi added.

Pines said afterwards that he was pleased with the court's decision. "This is essentially an interim injunction [against the appointment]," he said. "I'm aware that it isn't comfortable for the court to discuss the appointment of the attorney-general, but this is the test of Israel democracy and the rule of law."



28th INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF TOURISM INDUSTRY

xenia '97

22-26 JANUARY

O.L.P. EXHIBITION CENTER OF PIRAEUS

A recognized accredited exhibitional institution in our country.
28 years pioneering the International Tourism Industry.

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT AND THE GREEK NATIONAL TOURIST ORGANIZATION

INVITATION

EXHIBITION
"xenia '97"

EQUIPMENT, ORGANISING,
DRINK AND FOOD PROVISION
FOR THE TOURISM INDUSTRY

Weekdays from 18:00 to 21:00
Saturday & Sunday from 11:00 to 21:00

PLEASE FILL YOUR DATA AND GIVE THEM TO THE ENTRANCE OF THE EXHIBITION

VISITOR'S NAME _____

BUSINESS HE/SHE REPRESENTS _____

KIND OF BUSINESS _____

ADDRESS _____

TOWN _____ TELEPHONE _____

DRIVE CAREFULLY

59, 3rd SEPTEMBRIOU ST. & EPIROU, 104 33 ATHENS, GREECE
 TEL. (01) 88.42.916-9, FAX (01) 82.16.720

Sto

Music fo
on a 1

Handwritten Arabic text: *مركز الخيا*

MOVIE REVIEW

Stone sinks 'Diabolique' hits new depths

By ADINA HOFFMAN

Heinz-Georges Clouzot's 1955 French thriller *Diabolique* goes unmentioned in the credits of this

DIABOLIQUE

Directed by Jeremiah Chechik. Screenplay by Don Roos. Hebrew title: *Nashot Hasatan*. 107 minutes. English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. Children under 17 not admitted without an adult.

With Sharon Stone, Isabelle Adjani, Chazz Palminteri and Kathy Bates

American remake, directed by Jeremiah Chechik, from a script by Don Roos. But perhaps this omission is for the better: the new

version of the macabre classic is dismal on its own terms and comparisons to the original would only make it seem worse.

This time around, the action has been transplanted to a boy's school outside of Pittsburgh, where Chazz Palminteri is the sadistic headmaster, Isabelle Adjani his fragile ex-ou of a wife, and Sharon Stone his vampish mistress, perhaps the least convincing algebra teacher in the history of film. Tired of being abused and humiliated, the women conspire to drown the man in the bathtub. After they do so, they begin to sense that something isn't right. His body vanishes, from where it was dumped, and other strange signs appear.

The plot is, at best, nonsensical. From the outset, we wonder at the weird alliance between betrayer and betrayed, and the filmmakers barely trouble themselves to make the women's motivations coherent, let alone compelling. Even the hints at a

lesbian relationship have a perfunctory quality, as if Stone had demanded in her contract that this steamy possibility figure in the script. Adjani's character has obviously been bantered by her husband, but why would Stone's femme fatale want, or need, to kill her lover? The answer implied by her stiletto-sharp manner is simply that she despises all men and relishes the prospect of bumping off one especially unsympathetic specimen.

The male-hating theme finds its extension in the character of a tough, one-breasted detective played by Kathy Bates. When she shows up and begins to sniff around the school for clues of the missing principal it's not clear if she'd rather find him dead or alive. She has her own agenda. (So, apparently, does Don Roos, who also wrote the script for that sorry women's picture *Boys on the Side*, in which the trio of loveable female leads had a great time bashing out the brains of an abu-

sive boyfriend. Roos seems to have found his niche as Hollywood's self-hating-guy-for-hire.)

In the hands of a more enterprising director, all this coursing female hostility might have swept some new life into the dried-up genre setpieces that fill the movie. Chechik, though, has no discernible style of his own: he relies on the usual low-wattage photography and ominous orchestrations to create a threatening atmosphere, and encourages the stars to overact grotesquely. Stone, a natural ham, takes his direction to comic-book extremes, stomping and echaing angrily in a range of leopardskin bras and silky black slips, and delivering her lines in a hard, hollow tone. Her performance is camp without the fun that usually implies.

Adjani does her scenery-chewing bit, too, quivering and biting her lip throughout most of the picture, and even clutching her heart and gasping for breath prettily (it's not the film's airless atmosphere; her character has a heart condition). And as if her blubbering bearing weren't bad enough, she's forced to wear ugly, shapeless dresses and a symbolic megacrucifix around her neck. Next to Stone's glamorous bitch-goddess, this overgrown convent girl is a thankless part to play. But it's only fair: *Diabolique* is a thankless film to sit through.



Sharon Stone - an unlikely algebra teacher

NEWS

of the muse

Barkai up the wrong tree

Three years ago, when he first tried his hand as a television talk show host, Razi Barkai was a miserable failure, and his show folded after only eight runs. Now he's getting a second chance. Next month, Barkai, who anchors Army Radio's *What's Burning?* will take over from Misha Friedman as host of Channel 2's *Media File*. Friedman meanwhile is to co-host, with Yardena Arazi, Channel 2's breakfast program twice a week, on Tuesdays and Fridays.

The aggressive Barkai, whose interviewees rarely get a chance to respond to his ongoing battery of questions, has said that he won't be instituting any immediate changes.

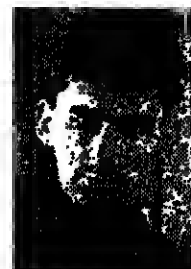


Razi Barkai (Uzi Keren)

Greer Fay Cashman

A new Webb site?

The Kirov could be the next stop for New Israeli Opera resident conductor Jonathan Webb. He arranged all the vocal and orchestral preparation for the current NIO/Kirov co-production, *Lady Macbeth from Mzensk* (*Katerina Ismailova*). When the Kirov's music director, Maestro Valery Gergiev, arrived to take over the final rehearsals, he was so delighted with the high musical standard he found that he has invited Webb to conduct all performances from this Thursday instead of the scheduled Alexander Polianichko.



Jonathan Webb (Harany)

Helen Kaye

Poets' corner

Getting away from it all will be an option for poets who want a bit of sylvan peace and quiet. Following the success of last year's Poets Festival in Metulla - the first of its kind - the Metulla Regional Council and the Israeli Culture and Arts Council have combined to create studio space where Israeli poets can dally with the muse. Each poet or poetess can stay for two weeks and applications will be accepted twice a year. A three-person committee will choose the lucky incumbents, but the winners may not be as lucky as they might first suppose. Each poet-in-residence will be required to conduct workshops with adults and youth and give lectures and poetry readings, leaving them little time to write.

Helen Kaye

It takes a president's wife

US First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton received a Grammy nomination on Tuesday for the audio version of her best-selling book *It Takes a Village*. Clinton will be up against several Hollywood celebrities in the spoken word or non-musical album category. Other nominees in the category include Lauren Bacall, Martin Landau, Jack Lemmon and Gregory Peck for their work on the Paul Werth book, *Harry S. Truman: A Journey to Independence*. The winner will be announced on February 26 at the 39th annual Grammy Awards ceremony at Madison Square Garden.



Hillary Clinton (Isaac Harari)

Reuter

Further fallout from OJ trial

Marcia Clark, the lead prosecutor in the O.J. Simpson murder trial, is leaving the district attorney's office, and sources said she will host a television talk show. "She'll be profiling people," one source said. Clark, 43, who spent 14 years as a deputy district attorney, has been in professional limbo since the murder trial ended in October 1995 with Simpson's acquittal.

LA Times

Hassidic rock on MTV

A video of a song by Los Angeles band Tish is set to be the first hassidic music on MTV, according to *The Jewish Journal of Greater Los Angeles*. As Tish prepares to cut its first CD, founder Harry Jacobs (who worked in music and TV in Israel for some years) says "People are getting to appreciate the world-beat quality of hassidic dance." Indeed the band's hassidic rock seems to be popular in Jewish circles in Los Angeles, and in March Tish is due to perform a musical with hassidic stories between songs. According to Jacobs, Congregation Beth Jacob Rabbi Avner Weiss has okayed the band's inclusion of female singers "as long as they only sing backup." For hardi audiences, the band dispenses with these vocalists altogether.

Jerusalem Post Staff

From 'Fame' to fame

By HELEN KAYE

At the first concert he ever attended at New York's High School of the Performing Arts - the school where they shot *Fame* - new student Bill Louther saw contemporary dance for the first time "and practically breaking my mother's arm, I told her 'that's what I'm going to do'."

And, he did it. In fact he did it so well that Louis Falco, the creator of *Fame*, modeled Leroy on his old classmate.

During his more than 30 year career, dancer/choreographer Louther (pronounced Loo-ther), has danced with Martha Graham, Alvin Ailey, the West End (founding member), Jerome Robbins, and Merce Cunningham among others. The list of companies he's created dances for sounds like the *Who's Who?* of the dance world - it includes the Royal and Culberg ballets to name just two.

Through Graham, Louther became the founding artistic director of the London Contemporary Dance Theater (LCDT) in the mid-sixties, and in 1972 Louther came to Israel for the first time to become artistic director of the BatSheva Dance Company.

When he came, "BatSheva was a roster of stars and I sort of beat it into a company." He stayed three years then, and "I guess I've been back almost every year since," he says.

When he comes now, he stays with dancer Tamara Mielnik, for whom he is both friend and mentor. In the summer he teaches a master class at the Jerusalem Rubin Academy "which is a mas-

ter class in the truest sense of the word," he says Mielnik. "He is a great teacher and one of the greatest dance artists in the world."

Mielnik founded the Jerusalem Dance Theater, a dance company and umbrella group for all kinds of dance projects, in 1986. Tonight, JDT is having the first of its two galas at the Rebecca Crown auditorium in the Jerusalem Theater. The other is at Suzanne Dellal in Tel Aviv on Wednesday. Louther, who has enthusiastically supported dance in Jerusalem, is part of it, of course.

Louther and ballerina Galina Panov will premiere his newest work, a pas de deux called *Beloved*, based on a dance of the same name by Lester Horton. Another recent Louther work is *Sacred Ground*, the piece he made last summer for Springboard, the Rubin Academy's graduate com-

pany created by Hassia Levy-Agron.

Beloved is taken from the true story of a minister who beat his new bride to death with the Bible, and who was found quietly reading it with her battered body on the floor beside him.

two uncles, who lived with them, were musicians and "Dizzy Gillespie and Max Roach were my big sitters. I owe my musical education to them."

He studied piano, didn't keep it up, but "when I find the time, I sit down and depress myself. I always knew the arts would be my meter and my parents supported me. I'd been involved in drama at junior high, and Performing Arts accepted me into the theater program."

The dance revelation changed his major, and Louther went on from there to study at Juilliard and New York University, getting his Bachelors degree from both.

His first job was with May O'Donnell, a Graham protegee. It was only later that he danced in Graham's company.

The relationship established then has lasted beyond Graham's death nearly seven years ago. Louther is still a consultant to the company.

"Contemporary dance attacks all of the senses, all at once," he says. "It's instantly communicative on a spiritual level."

"The body never lies and so every movement must have truth in it, or it becomes frivolous and vulgar."

"You have to start with 'why do I want to make this dance'. It has to be real to my own senses. A work shouldn't have to be explained."

Other works at the gala include the prize-winning *And He Made Me Laugh* created and performed by Mielnik, *War and Peace* by Valery Panov, *Kongo Tango Palace* by Tali Biti, and *The Creation of the World*, another premiere by Yaakov Lipschitz.

Music for the millennium on a 1734 Stradivarius

By MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

For her forthcoming Israeli debut with the Haifa Symphony Orchestra at the end of the week, Canadian violinist Chantal Juillet opted to play the Shostakovich concerto, and for good reason.

From her Montreal abode, Juillet speaks with enthusiasm about her commitment to 20th century music. "I am very much interested in a repertoire [which is] less played [but] which is fantastic. And my recording company, Decca, knows that this is what I want to record. I don't think the recording market needs another Brahms or Mendelssohn. Recording Shostakovich at the end of the century is much more important."

Juliet has already recorded the concerti of Szymanowski, Stravinsky, Korngold, Goldschmidt, Weill and Kernek, some of which appeared on Decca's prestigious *Entertete Musik* project, which focuses on music banned by the Third Reich.

She has also recorded Ravel disc with Pascal Roge and her next recording will feature Hungarian music by Bartok, Kodaly and other less familiar composers.

"I find it fascinating to discover new composers," she adds with an air of excitement.

She had a very close relationship with Goldschmidt who conducted her recording of his con-

certo after she premiered the work in Montpellier.

He also wrote his *Rondeau* for her which she recorded under his baton.

"The concerto is not out yet. It will come on a Goldschmidt concert disc which will also feature his cello concerto which has already been recorded by Yo Yo Ma and his clarinet concerto, which will be recorded by Sabine Mayer," she says.

The Shostakovich concerto is very special indeed, Juillet says. "It's a fantastic piece, a big, fairly long concerto which is also interesting for the orchestra."

"There is a lot of communication with the orchestra, and everybody enjoys playing this music. It's so lively, such incredible melodies, and above all it is a big challenge for a violinist because of the length and the quite difficult cadenza before the last movement."

Juliet explains that "every movement is quite different. It's quite a classical work, not atonal, quite pleasing to the ear and the harmonies are never shocking. Its start is dark and somber yet still quite melodic."

"Then the second movement is fast with a lot of rhythm and the third movement is a beautiful melody, the kind of music you want to sing."

"The cadenza, the most atonal part of the concerto, that's where it gets a little more modern to the ear."

Chantal Juillet plays on a very



Chantal Juillet brings Shostakovich to Haifa.

special 1734 Stradivarius, loaned to her by a private American "who has a few instruments and loans them out. It's one of the last Stradivarius made and it's actually darker in sound than the usual strad."

"It's something I was always attracted to. It has the quality of a strad but it's darker, sometimes it borders the viola sound."

Chantal Juillet plays the Shostakovich first violin concerto with the HSO Saturday through Monday and next Wednesday.

CLASSIC DISCS

Bucking the trend

By MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

Iona Brown should have been in Israel this week, but, unfortunately, the violinist/leader/conductor had to cancel her series of concerts with the Israel Sinfonietta Beersheba. Consequently, we have to settle for her new recordings.

Brown is the leader of one of the most impressive chamber music ensembles in the world, an ensemble that works against popular traditions and fashions. The Academy of St. Martin in the Fields is a chamber orchestra that performs 16th and 17th century ensembles in 20th century style. The Academy of St. Martin in the Fields is not just any ensemble. It is one of the most prestigious and experienced of its kind. And it shows.

Two new discs, with Brown, on the Academy Series of the German Hanssler Classic label, showcase the Academy at its glorious best.

Vivaldi's *The Four Seasons* is one of the most recorded works in the repertoire, and in many of the numerous existing recordings of this opus one senses that the performers are actually neglecting, not to say negating, the real essence of the music.

However, each new *Four Seasons* recording with serious

musicians is reason for celebration.

And this one (Hanssler CD 98.107) is entirely different from many we are familiar with.

Brown presents a down to earth reading of the score.

There is much warmth, tenderness, and poetic beauty in her reading (listen for example to the

Winter Concerto), and there is a deep robust and loving sound to the orchestra she leads.

This is a performance of *The Four Seasons* that has it roots more in the classic tradition than in the baroque, and it is a most exciting performance exactly for these reasons.

Also on the disc are first-rate performances of the Vivaldi Concerto for Two Violins, and the same composer's Concerto for Four Violins.

On another disc, this one featuring six concerti grossi (Opus 3) by Handel (Hanssler 98.918), Brown leads the Academy with sound command and musical sincerity which creates a fabulous solid sound, suggesting that in this day and age Handel can still make sense even outside the authentic movement performance style.

Here, Brown emerges as a first rate leader who enjoys an ensemble of superb musicians that manages to capture the beauty of the music and present it to the listeners in all its dramatic colorfulness.



Iona Brown

SEE IT IN HEBREW
HEAR IT IN ENGLISH!

TWELFTH NIGHT
January 21 at 8:30 p.m.
The Cameri's new production of Shakespeare's amorous comedy - a hysterical love triangle between a man, woman and teenage boy.

COMEDY OF ERRORS
January 28 at 8:30 p.m.
The smash-hit production of Shakespeare's classic comedy set amidst a modern war-torn Middle Eastern city with dazzling stage effects that include drums, gunshots, torch lights and even belly dancing.

BOX OFFICE: 03-523 3335 • FAX: 03-5230172 • SUBSCRIPTIONS: 03-5245211
The Cameri Theatre can now be found on the Internet at the following address:
<http://www.cameri.virtual.co.il>

THE THEATRE OF TEL AVIV
CAMERI
Located in the heart of Tel Aviv on lively Dizengoff Street, the Cameri is just a few minutes' walk from downtown hotels. Easily accessible by bus or taxi.
In cooperation with the Ministry of Tourism, Tel Aviv and Central Region

asevic
TRAIN'S
ARON
DRIVE
REFUL

The Nation

In the Market We Trust

Common stocks, as such, are not superior to bonds as long-term investments, because primarily they are not investments at all. They are speculations.

— "Investments and Speculations," by Lawrence Chamberlain and William W. Hay, published by Henry Holt in 1931.

The more data we analyze, the more confident we are that stocks are superior long-term investments. In the long run, the true risk resides with fixed-income investments, not with common stocks.

— "Stocks for the Long Run," by Jeremy J. Siegel, published by Irwin in 1994.

By FLOYD NORRIS

THE American view of financial risks and opportunities has come a long way in six decades.

Four years after Lawrence Chamberlain, a respected investment banker, warned that stocks could not even be deemed an investment, the Social Security system was born as a way of providing an assured means of support for elderly Americans. Money would be raised by taxes on working Americans and, to the extent not needed to pay immediate benefits, invested in safe government bonds.

In 1935, memories of the 1929 crash were fresh. No one suggested that the road to safety led through buying common stocks.

Now, three years after Jeremy J. Siegel, a finance professor at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School, published his influential book, a commission has recommended to Congress that the Social Security system be partly financed by common stock investments. It split on important details, but on the central thesis it came down solidly with Mr. Siegel: Stocks are safe, for in the long run they always go up. Bonds, including government bonds, whose real value can be eroded by inflation, are the risky asset.

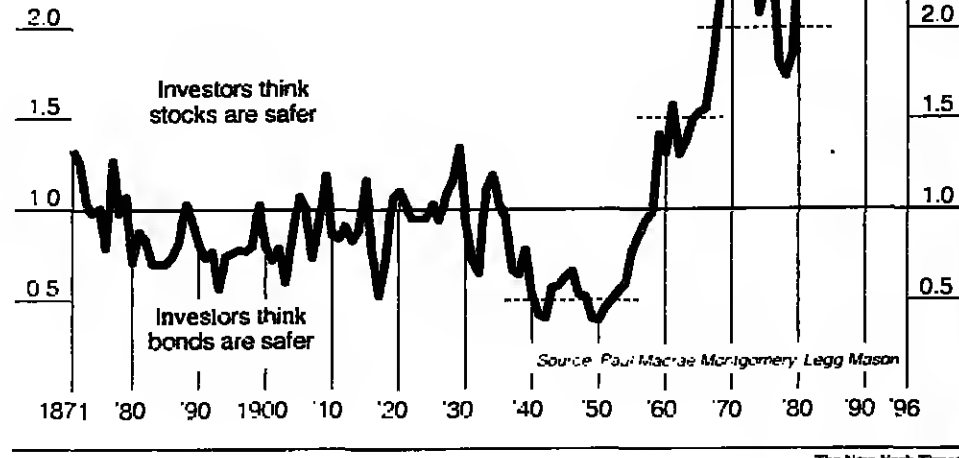
The change has come slowly, with some converting early and some not at all. The stock market gained adherents in the 1950's and 1960's, then lost them in the 1970's, when inflation scared many investors away from all securities, and briefly into such hard assets as gold and diamonds. But since 1982, the start of a bull market with few historical rivals, the academic work showing that stocks are the best long-term investment has gained widespread acceptance.

Accordingly, investors have been willing to pay more and more for stocks, feeling secure in the knowledge that they will do well in the long run, even if prices fall over shorter periods of time.

One way to measure the changing attitudes is to look at the relative level of

The Sweet Smell of Stocks

The relative yield from dividends on a diversified portfolio of industrial stocks compared with interest from high-quality corporate bonds. A figure of 1 shows the two yields the same. Figures below 1 show that stocks yield more, indicating that investors demand a high dividend to offset the risk of investing in stocks. Figures above 1 show stock dividends are less than the interest from bonds, indicating that investors expect increases in stock prices will make up the difference. Figures are annual averages.



dividends on stocks compared with interest rates on bonds. Investors have the choice of buying bonds, with a guaranteed interest rate and certainty (barring default) of getting their principal back when the bond matures, or of buying stocks, with a less certain yield from dividends and the possibility that the stock's price could rise or fall.

25-Year Recovery

But as the widely forecast post-World War II depression failed to occur, investors gradually became more and more willing to buy stocks, and stocks became more expensive relative to bonds. In 1954, the Dow Jones industrial average finally got back to its pre-crash high of 381.17. There was nervous commentary, but no crash.

Then, in 1958, there was much hand-wringing over the fact that the dividend yield on stocks was now actually lower than the bond

yield. A scary article in Business Week was titled "An Evil Omen Returns." It warned that stock yields had been below bond yields back in 1929, and look what happened.

But it didn't happen again. It was not until the 1970's that stocks again performed badly over a long period. And after prices began to soar again in 1982, academics gradually produced what they viewed as proof that rising stock prices, in the long run, were inevitable. That gospel has been proclaimed in newspapers, personal finance magazines and on countless television shows.

Now the interest you can get on a high-quality corporate bond is about four times the dividend yield on the stocks in the Standard & Poor's industrial average, but most on Wall Street figure that is irrelevant. Companies can return money to shareholders by repurchasing shares, and in any case it is the prospect of rising prices, not dividend income, that draws in buyers. "It's a sea change in attitudes," says Paul Macrae Montgomery, a strategist at Legg Mason, the brokerage house.

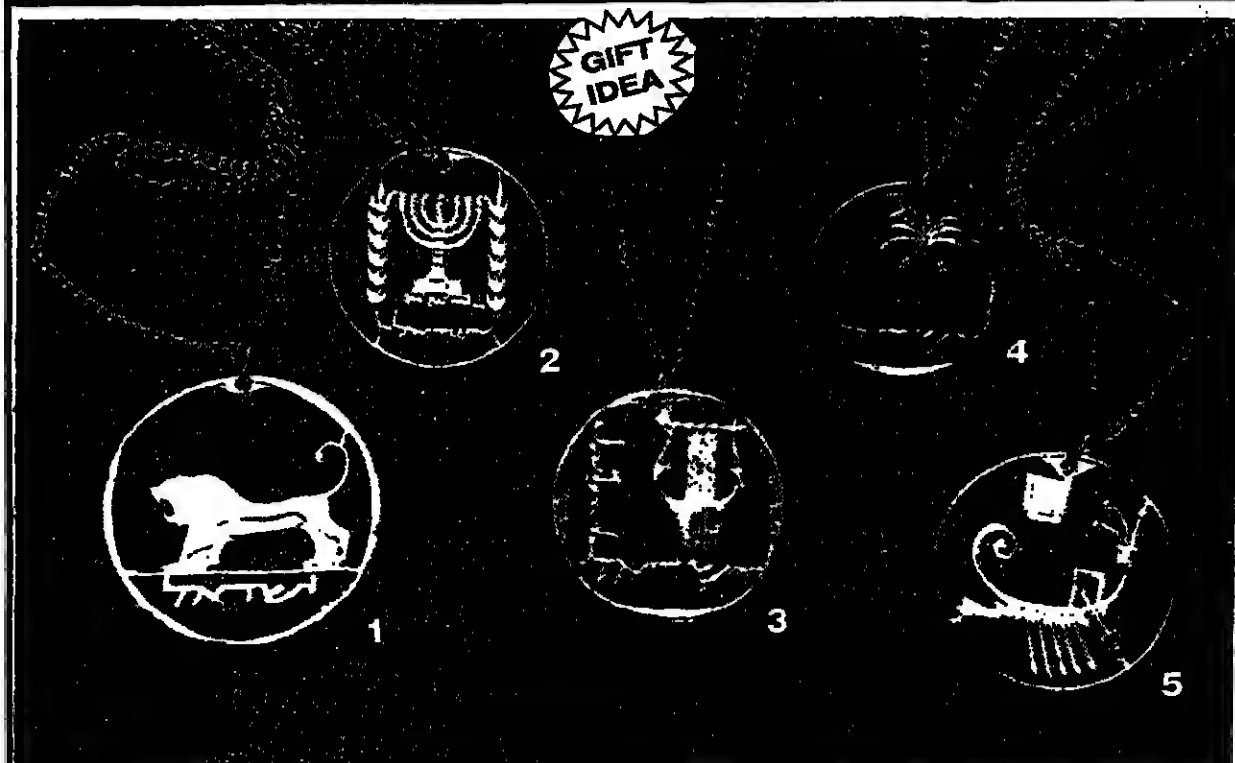
"The Jeremy Siegel book hit at exactly the right moment," Peter L. Bernstein, a founding editor of The Journal of Portfolio Management, said last week. Now the expected return from stocks is seen as "a reliable projection," he said. "I think that is just extraordinary," he added.

In 1936, Social Security was young, and the nation freshly burned by the stock market.

Last week, in The Wall Street Journal, Jonathan Clements, a columnist, confronted the question of what a parent should do if he had all the savings for his daughter's college education invested in stocks, only to have her go to college in one of those rare periods when stock prices had fallen substantially. Mr. Clements's response: Pay the tuition with borrowed money. "while you wait for stocks to bounce back."

that stocks are the best long-term investments may persuade investors to bid up share prices until they are dangerously overvalued, much as happened in the 1920's. Mr. Siegel admits that it is possible but says share prices would have to rise another 25 percent or so, to perhaps 8,000, for him to be really concerned. Still, he is not enthusiastic about the idea of putting Social Security money into stocks. "Suppose we come to a 10-year period when the return on stocks is not good," he said. "They happen."

Historical Creations



Demonstrating fine, unusual skill, Israeli artisan Itzik Peleg has created beautiful medallions, by hollowing out Israeli coins no longer in use, and plating them with 24 karat gold. Each medallion in the selection displays the name Israel in Hebrew, preserved from the coin, and a historical inscription or symbol dating from the days of Bar Kochba:

- 1. The Lion, symbol of the tribe of Judah
- 2. The Seven Branched Candelabrum, holy artifact used in the days of the Temple
- 3. David's Harp, representing King David's harp, mentioned in the Bible
- 4. The Date Palm, one of the Seven Species of Eretz Yisrael
- 5. An Ancient Ship, representing seamanship and the art of shipbuilding in the time of Solomon

Each coin tells a story of Biblical Israel. An ideal gift for friends and loved ones. Chain included with each medallion.

JP Price: NIS 175 each
Including door-to-door delivery (where available)

To: MARI c/o The Jerusalem Post, P.O.B. 81, Jerusalem 91000. Tel. 02-241282.
Please send me the Coin Medallions listed below:
 Lion Candelabrum David's Harp Date Palm Ancient Ship
Enclosed is my check for NIS 175 each, payable to The Jerusalem Post, or credit card details:
(For registered overseas air mail, please add NIS 12).
 Visa Icarad Dinars
CC No. _____ Exp. _____
Name _____ Address _____
City _____ Zip _____ Tel. _____

*Please list gift recipients' names and addresses separately, and we'll send them the medallion, with a gift notice in your name.

The Devil Is in The Trial Details

Continued From Page 1

ferent for many reasons. There aren't so many restrictions on evidence in a civil proceeding. Mr. Simpson faces different opponents, represented by different (and most say better) lawyers. The judges have different ideas about what jurors should hear. The plaintiffs' lawyers, having watched the prosecutors, have learned a great deal about what not to do, and witnesses have learned what not to say. And new fragments of information have been found.

The question of exactly what happened on June 12, 1994, will probably never be answered in court because a trial is often not so much a dispassionate inquiry as it is a morality play. At best it is an attempt to recapture events that were ambiguous in the first place; at worst it is a contest between opposing public relations machines, each trying to sell its own stylized version of reality.

It is, in any event, a game. "If one side makes a mistake, it has to live with the mistake, even if it terribly distorts the outcome," said Burt Neuborne, a professor at the New York University Law School. "The feeling is that the outcome is less important than the process, than defending the adversary process in the long run."

Living with a mistake ordinarily means forfeiting evidence. In Mr. Simpson's criminal trial, prosecutors couldn't present their finding that carpet fibers at the crime scene had to be from a 1993 or 1994 Bronco (Mr. Simpson's was a 1994) because, in violation of court rules, they failed to give their report to the defense.

In criminal trials, prosecutors cannot use evidence gathered in an improper search, and they cannot call the defendant to the stand. In both civil and criminal trials, evidence can be excluded because it is hearsay (that's what Judge Lance Ito ruled about the phone call to the women's shelter), or because it is deemed irrelevant (as Judge Fujisaki decided about Mark Fuhrman), or so prejudicial that it would mislead the jury (as both judges concluded about some accounts of wife-battering by Mr. Simpson).

Most lawyers and legal scholars believe such editing serves the truth in the long run. Even more say it

serves justice in the long run — that excluding evidence is the only means of forcing police and prosecutors to comply with the law, and insuring that a defendant is judged only for the act with which he is charged.

Still, the American system is remarkable for its restrictive trial rules. Most countries' courts admit information more informally and give judges a much bigger role, cutting short the laborious process of posing questions and objections. In Europe, Mr. Langbein said, "you're looking at a legal system so much fairer, cheaper and more accurate than ours that they view us the way we view witch doctors."

What Jurors Want

European judges routinely ask for a defendant's record of crimes, or what American law calls, more generally, "bad acts." American jurors want to know about them, too, to judge from the comments of those who deadlocked in the recent trial of Alex Kelly, who was charged with raping a 16-year-old girl in Connecticut. Only later did they learn, to their dismay, that a second girl had accused him of a similar attack.

But James F. Flanagan, a professor at the University of South Carolina Law School, argues that a prior conviction is not usually such useful information anyway. "The question before the jury is whether the individual did this act," he said.

Besides, Mr. Flanagan said, juries hear plenty of facts, which stretch only so far. Mr. Simpson's lawyers must have appreciated that, he said, when confronted with the photographs of the Bruno Maglis: "They got whopped by reality evidence."

In the Simpson case, it is possible that no number of cold facts can lead to an acceptable conclusion. "It happened in the Rosenberg case and in the Hiss case and in this case," said Mr. Fletcher at Columbia. Mr. Fletcher said there are better ways to get at information than staging trials, but they are not necessarily satisfying. With official inquiries and commissions, he said, "the idea is you have the best evidence you can put together." The Warren Commission, he added, was such an effort — and 30 years later, "a vast percentage of the public doesn't believe it."

Handwritten signature or note in Arabic script.

The World

Seoul Takes Its Cue From Mrs. Thatcher

By ANDREW POLLACK

WHEN South Korea enacted its basic labor laws in 1953, it was in the midst of the Korean War. Communist North Korea claimed that it was a worker's paradise. To counteract this, South Korea provided such generous worker benefits as a near guarantee of lifetime employment and a one-day-a-month paid menstruation leave for women.

Today, North Korea is an economic basket case and a prosperous South Korea faces very different rivals. It finds itself economically sandwiched between other

South Korea confronts labor to keep its economy competitive.

Asian countries with lower wages, like China and Indonesia, and advanced nations with higher technology, like Japan. And there is a widespread feeling among businesses and the Government that in this era of global competition the old largesse can no longer be afforded.

This sense of economic crisis is, to some extent, at the root of the widespread strikes that have paralyzed some South Korean industries for more than two weeks and have provoked violent clashes between strikers and police.

Worried that Korea is becoming internationally uncompetitive, the Government is trying to shake off a pattern of long, sometimes violent strikes that have made this nation the world leader in labor strife for the last 10 years and have led to wage increases that have averaged 15 percent a year over the same period.

To end these strikes, in late December President Kim Young Sam's ruling party passed new laws making it easier to dismiss workers and replace strikers.

Downsizing is about to come to Korea. "There is no country in the world except Korea where annual wages continued to rise

15 percent a year for the past 10 years," Jin Nyum, the Minister of Labor, said Friday. "At this point, one can't help asking, 'Can the Korean economy continue like this?'"

So far, the result of this attempt to establish a new pattern of labor-management relations has merely been a return to the strikes of old, but on a larger scale than ever.

But President Kim thinks he can take on the powerful unions now, even in an election year, because he believes the public is more worried about the future of the economy than about workers' rights.

And so he has been standing tough, much as former President Ronald Reagan did when he faced down striking air traffic controllers in 1981 and as Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher did in Britain when she stood firm against striking miners in 1985.

But President Kim may be making a miscalculation, and indeed the Government on Saturday seemed to be scrambling to soften its stance.

It is true that in South Korea there is a sense that the nation's economic miracle is ebbing. Economic growth has fallen to about 8 percent a year, which would be the envy of many nations but is less than the 8 or 9 percent growth the nation is accustomed to.

Korea's trade deficit has ballooned to record levels. And the stock market is languishing at close to its lowest level in four years.

"Structurally, I think we've come to the end of the effectiveness of the existing paradigm," said Park Ungsuh, president of the Samsung Economic Research Institute.

Still, it would be incorrect to attribute too much of the nation's woes to overpaid workers. Over-regulation of business by the Government is considered an even bigger cause of economic sclerosis.

Radical Changes

Despite what might have been written in the labor law, Korean workers have not really been pampered.

For most of the period since the Korean War, hours were long, working conditions were often poor and wages, until recently, were low. During the 1960's, the 1970's and the first half of the 1980's, authoritarian governments suppressed workers' ability to organize unions or to go on strike.

Things began to change radically in 1987,



A South Korean striker set himself on fire Friday to protest new labor laws. He lived, but suffered burns over 30 percent of his body.

with the stirrings of democracy. As if a lid had been lifted on pent-up frustrations, workers erupted in numerous, often violent strikes that were in turn suppressed by the arrests of the strikers. The number of strikes has dropped in recent years, in part because companies have given in to demands for big wage increases.

Daewoo Electronics, for instance, now pays its Korean factory workers more than workers in its factory in Britain, even though Britain is a much wealthier country, said Bae Soonhoon, Daewoo's president.

Because of the high wages at home in South Korea, Daewoo has begun moving its consumer electronics manufacturing to lower-wage nations in Asia and Latin America. But Dr. Bae concedes that with South Korea's economy growing, its labor supply tight and big companies fighting for market share, keeping the factories running has been the priority.

"I cannot do anything," he said. "If they ask for more money I have to pay more, because if I don't they don't work. And the loss from not delivering product is higher

than the loss from higher production costs. So I give more."

While many analysts might agree with the need to keep wages in check and allow for greater flexibility in trimming work forces, they note that this was not supposed to be the only purpose of the new law.

What the Law Left Out

As originally envisioned, the law was intended to change the whole labor-management relationship from one of confrontation to one of cooperation.

In addition to helping management, the law was meant to enhance the rights of workers to unionize and to bring South Korea into conformity with international labor standards. Teachers and other public employees were to be given the right to organize and more than one union was to be permitted at a company.

But because of fears that granting such rights would lead to disruptions, the law that was actually enacted postponed some of these reforms or left them out.

"The Government is trying to focus on efficiency only, disregarding rights," said Park Young Ki, director of the Institute for Labor and Management at Sogang University.

This is starting to backfire on the Government. It is helping to bring religious groups, academics, opposition lawmakers, civic groups and international human rights and labor groups into the controversy on the side of the striking workers. This is the major reason the Government seems to be starting to explore a compromise.

But even from the point of view of economic competitiveness, a policy that alienates workers might be shortsighted. Korea has left the development stage, where it is competing on low wages, and entering the stage where it must compete on productivity and product quality.

"We can improve the productivity rate and product quality when workers are highly motivated," said Professor Park of Sogang University. "If they are not happy it will reflect negatively in their products, and that's a disaster."

Impugning Immunity Diplomats Who Do Wrong

By STEVEN LEE MYERS

WASHINGTON
IN 1982, a North Korean diplomat grabbed a woman's breasts in a park in Eastchester, outside New York City, and then holed up in his country's mission to the United Nations for 10 months, before he finally pleaded guilty to a minor charge and left. A few years later, the Ambassador of Papua-New Guinea plowed his car into four others on Wisconsin Avenue here. Though alleged to have been soused, he went home with impunity. More recently, Uganda's Ambassador was nabbed by customs agents in Florida as he was trying to smuggle home antitank weapons. He, too, left the country.

The Indignant Public

There is no new crime wave emanating from foreign embassies, missions and consulates around the United States. But every couple of years or so, a few cases catch the public's indignant eye and the State Department has to defend a basic principle of foreign relations that occasionally flies in the face of the American sense of justice: diplomatic immunity.

It is a principle, cemented by treaty, whose roots stretch not only to the earliest days of the United States but to the ancient Greeks and the Pharaohs. And yet the very idea is attacked virtually every time it is invoked in this country to shield foreign diplomats — or their husbands, wives, sons and daughters — who have done something wrong.

Now two highly publicized incidents have fueled the furor again.

In the first, two diplomats in New York City, a Russian and a Belarussian accredited to the United Nations, scuffled with police officers trying to ticket their car, parked in front of a fire hydrant. Everything about the confrontation on Dec. 29 — from the amount of dry white wine the Russian drank at lunch to the behavior of the officers — remains in dispute.

Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani, whose lamously determined style can turn even minor events into international incidents, accused the diplomats of attacking the officers, demanded their immediate expulsion and reminded the world of their embassies' refusal to pay parking fines. The Governments of Russia and Belarussia demanded an investigation and an apology.

The second, far more serious incident involved the death of a teen-age girl. According to the police, on Jan. 3, the second-ranking diplomat from the Republic of Georgia's Embassy in Washington drove into a car waiting at a red light, knocking it into a third, in which the girl was a passenger. The diplomat, the police said, had been drinking and driving wildly.

Within days, the United States Attorney for the District of Columbia concluded there was ample evidence to charge the diplomat, Gueorgui Makharadze, with a crime, perhaps even murder in the second degree. The State Department immediately called on Georgia's President, Eduard A. Shevardnadze, to lift the diplomat's immunity, as did the White House.



Gueorgui Makharadze, a Republic of Georgia diplomat, was involved in this fatal accident.

It looked, for a while, as if this was the case that would at last shatter the principle of immunity. Senator Judd Gregg of New Hampshire declared it time to rethink immunity for serious crimes and called on President Clinton to suspend \$30 million in aid to Georgia if Mr. Makharadze did not stand trial. "American taxpayers should not have to send tens of millions of dollars to a country that would use a legal technicality to

When a rule of foreign relations offends the public's sense of justice.

harbor a drunk driver responsible for the death of a young woman," said Senator Gregg, the chairman of the Appropriations subcommittee that oversees the State Department.

By Friday, though, the debate was defused. After a personal appeal from Secretary of State Warren Christopher, Mr. Shevardnadze announced that Georgia would waive immunity in the interest of bilateral relations and "on moral and ethical grounds." It is still unclear when or if Mr. Makharadze will face charges.

The great popular misconception about diplomatic immunity is that it gives foreign envoys license to misbehave — from parking at bus stops to committing rape or murder. In fact, the treaty that codified immunity into international law, the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations of 1961, requires diplomats to obey the law

of the land wherever they are posted.

But to protect diplomats from harassment the treaty forbids any country to force a diplomat to appear in court. (There are exceptions, including any diplomat serving as an estate executor or engaged in commercial activity.)

The United States has recognized immunity since 1790, but after a series of highly publicized cases, it has taken steps to restrict it, limiting it to the most senior diplomats and their families.

Only 18,000 or so foreigners have full immunity in the United States, and very few of them have ever committed crimes. In 1995, the last year for which the State Department has a full accounting, there were 17 cases where diplomats faced charges of felonies or misdemeanors involving violence. And of those, only six were serious enough to end in expulsions.

Is the Dog Immune, Too?

Still, the occasional rogue deliberately commits crimes with knowing impunity. In New York, immunity has protected scores of diplomats and their missions who have refused to pay their bills. And occasionally the principle is pushed to absurdity. In the 1970's, Barbados's delegate to the United Nations tried to extend diplomatic immunity to his dog, a German shepherd accused of biting his neighbors. More recently, Mozambique's deputy representative to the United Nations waived his immunity in order to take his American wife to divorce court, only to invoke it again after he lost their \$3 million estate in Greenwich, Conn., in the proceedings. He appealed all the way to the Supreme Court, but she got the house.

Corruption Lite, Today's Junk Food

Continued From Page 1

dwelt on Oliver North's damn-the-torpedoes personality and his acceptance of a free security fence. White-water raises serious, if belated, moral questions about the Clintons' willingness to use friends and political connections for personal enrichment and power; public debate has become hopelessly enmeshed in technical questions about cattle futures and real estate cash flow.

Defense procurement, a trillion-dollar issue beyond anyone's easy grasp, is reduced to \$600 toilet seats and \$7,000 coffeemakers. The issue of Clarence Thomas's fitness to sit on the Supreme Court degenerates into bickering over an alleged public hair on an alleged can of Coca-Cola.

The problem is not that politicians and the public cannot understand or debate weighty public matters. The battle over Judge Robert Bork's suitability for the Supreme Court was exceedingly bitter, but mostly on point. The early Congressional hearings on Whitewater, on whether the White House was improperly apprised of Federal inquiries into the Clintons' business dealings, were both revealing and devastating.

Nor should anyone be faulted for seizing on metaphors — bounced checks at the House of Representatives bank, say — to represent larger truths like political arrogance. Scandals have always been reduced to metaphors: a vicuna coat, an oil-filled dome, a secretary who cannot type.

It is when scandal becomes a one-size-fits-all affair, experts say, that it loses its moral punch. The distinction between right and wrong has been fudged in more places than Washington. But the forces at work here, some experts say, have been especially powerful.

Watergate was one of them: Richard Nixon's fall ushered in an era of mutual suspicion between journalists and the people they cover, and legitimized public disclosure of politicians' finances and conflicts of interest.

Public lives have become far more transparent, and wrongdoing has become easier to find — and maybe less outrageous as a result.

Watergate introduced another concept to the scandal business: the "smoking gun" as the standard of proof for misbehavior. The public and journalists mostly abandoned old-fashioned moral judgments about political behavior for more ob-

jective legal standards.

But the legal system is adversarial, not fixed, and in the hands of a good lawyer the law can be both incredibly flexible and indifferent to morality. What the Harvard political scientist and ethics expert Dennis F. Thompson calls "institutional scandal" thrives under a smoking-gun standard: corrupted systems like the Federal campaign-spending structure go unchallenged because they are technically legal and publicly disclosed.

"That culture of legalism makes us put everything in terms of a criminal paradigm — did somebody do something intentionally, and did it harm some identifiable individual?" Mr. Thompson said.

The TV Effect

But the most powerful agent of change may be television. Television remade politics by weakening political parties, raising financial stakes and rewarding candidates with the money and stage presence to build their personal followings.

"Television made scandal much more common," said Mr. Schneider. "Politicians figured out that the way to get ahead was to build their own personal following: people don't support an ideology, a philosophy, a party; they support you. And that means that if you want to destroy your political enemy, you have to do it personally. You have to cut off their personal following, which means making them look like crooks and thieves and liars."

And so charges of ethical misdeeds have become a staple of political campaigns, cheapening them and contributing to the public belief that all politicians are corrupt.

Mostly, they are. And, Mr. Josephson of the Josephson Ethics Institute adds, so are too many non-politicians. Check-bouncers are not confined to the customer base of the House bank, and lying and puffery are not restricted to Capitol Hill.

Mr. Josephson argues without much hope that voters should stop trivializing political scandal and learn once more to make judgments about right and wrong.

"When we judge most people's character, we have what I call a disqualifying point," he said, "some point at which you say, 'This person is so unsavory to me that I wouldn't vote for him for anything.' But it's also possible to have someone you see flaws in and object to, yet you don't decide to fire them."

Handwritten signature or mark at the bottom of the page.

ECONOMY

This Lead Dog Still Barks, but Has a Bit Less Bite

BY ADAM BRYANT

LAST month, Robert L. Crandall, the famously combative chairman of American Airlines, sounded a note of conciliation.

In a long interview in which he discussed the airline industry's prospects, as well as his own, the 61-year-old Mr. Crandall talked like a man who had grown more tolerant of a world that has never quite snapped to attention as precisely or as profitably as he wanted.

"The passage of time," he said over breakfast during a trip to New York, "has probably made me a little more understanding that you can't always move as rapidly as you'd like."

A stinging defeat last week will put that understanding to the test.

It was supposed to have been a good week for Mr. Crandall, the captain of a series of bold moves over the last year.

Riding a strong industry comeback from the huge losses of the early 90's, Mr. Crandall trumpeted a big marketing alliance with British Airways last summer, saw his Sabre travel information subsidiary go public in a popular stock offering in October and placed an order in November for more than \$8 billion worth of Boeing jets, American's first sizable order since the 1960's.

But Mr. Crandall made the Boeing deal contingent on his winning approval by American's pilots of a four-year contract that union leaders tentatively agreed to last fall. Without the contract, which put a

tight cap on wage increases through 2000, the new planes could not be flown profitably and the order would be off, Mr. Crandall said — a development that would restrict American's future growth.

On Wednesday, the pilots did not blink: by a 2-to-1 margin, they rejected the pact.

With company earnings strong again — American's parent, the Dallas-based AMR Corporation, is expected to report record profits of about \$350 million for 1996 — the pilots say they are in no mood for raises that lag behind inflation, echoing similar sentiments at United Airlines, where mechanics also rejected a wage offer last week. (Another group of United workers accepted the offer; the outcome of a vote by pilots there will not be known until Friday.) Nor did Mr. Crandall give his pilots much reason to work with him; time and again, he has criticized them harshly in public.

It's anyone's guess what happens next. American says it might wind up scaling back its order with Boeing. Many of the pilots, however, say they are convinced that Mr. Crandall will buy the full order no matter what they do. On Thursday, their union, the Allied Pilots Association, which has about 9,000 members at American, warned of a possible strike if Mr. Crandall did not sweeten the wage offer. To underscore their harder line, union representatives said they would replace the five-member panel that negotiated the rejected deal.

But two things do seem clear. One is that Mr. Crandall will in-

deed not be moving ahead as rapidly as he would like, either with the pilots or with Boeing.

The other is that it is hardly the first time he has stubbed his toe in labor negotiations, where his hardball positions are often criticized as counterproductive. He has drawn similar criticism over the years for his lobbying efforts in Washington, where he has also been given to making threats when a policy decision did not go his way.

"Bob has outsmarted his competition, but he does have an unfortunate history of failing to build consensus in Washington and with his work force — that's been his Achilles' heel," said Clark H. Onstad, a former chief counsel at the Federal Aviation Administration and now a senior executive at Atlas Air, a cargo carrier in Golden, Colo.

Mr. Crandall said late last week that he was disappointed by the pilots' vote. "It's very disheartening," he said. "We negotiated with these guys for more than two years. The agreement is by any objective measure the best contract in the industry."

A spokesman for American, Robert A. Britton, said, "Clearly our goal is to reach an agreement with the union, preferably sooner rather than later."

Boeing apparently is willing to wait, at least for a while, for the pilots and Mr. Crandall to patch things up, although it is not clear how long the company will be able to commit part of its production capacity to the large order without a go-ahead. Under the terms of the now-postponed deal, American agreed to buy planes exclusively from Boeing for the next two decades in return for quick delivery and discounted prices. In a statement on Thursday, Boeing expressed confidence that an agreement with the pilots would be reached in the "near term" and that the plane order would then go forward.

Investors seem willing to bide their time, as well. Shares in AMR were off marginally on the day after the vote, falling \$1.50, to \$86.625. The stock finished the week at \$85.125, down \$1.50.

As Mr. Crandall begins his glide path toward retirement, last week's setback was a fitting addition to the twists and turns of his storied career, a mix of industry milestones and misdeeds.

Since Mr. Crandall took over as president in 1980 — he became chairman and chief executive in 1985 — American's innovations have ranged from frequent-flyer mileage to computer reservation systems to sophisticated software for setting fares. "If you're not the lead dog," he is fond of saying, "the view never changes."

But there have been times when he has demanded the lead-dog position and the rest of the team has not followed.

In 1992, he tried to force on the entire industry his so-called value-pricing idea — a drastic change in the way fares are structured that eliminated deep discounts to big corporate customers. He made no effort to build consensus in advance, and his competitors and customers balked. Within months, he declared the idea dead.

Mr. Crandall, said Mr. Onstad, the former F.A.A. counsel, has had "a large number of imitators, but very few followers."

It is a problem that even Mr. Crandall recognizes. "Nobody wants to hear about it," he says of his opposition to the widespread practice of code sharing, under which two airlines market flights jointly in the computer reservation system. Mr. Crandall says that the practice is deceptive to consumers, who can book a flight on one airline only to wind up on another, and that he has reluctantly joined the trend so American can remain competitive.

Some day, Mr. Crandall said, people will wonder why they did not listen to him.

Plenty of people were listening in the early 80's, when Mr. Crandall instituted a two-tier wage contract, expanded the airline's hub-and-spoke system and invested about \$20 billion in new planes and other equipment. Those moves enabled him to expand more rapidly than his competitors. By the end of that decade, the industry was making money and Mr. Crandall was lauded in the me-

dia as one of the toughest but most effective bosses in the country. "American Takes On the World," read the headline on a cover article of Fortune magazine in September 1990.

But in the early 90's, a big decline in travel prompted by the Persian Gulf war, combined with overambitious expansion, plunged the cyclical airline industry into its deepest trough ever, causing it to lose billions upon billions of dollars.

American's stock, which reached a high of \$107 a share in 1989, tumbled during this period and has yet to recover completely. For some time now, investors have held the company to a different standard from other airlines. While American is widely perceived as a well-run company that occasionally blunders — sometimes badly — most other major airlines are viewed these days as in need of a turnaround or as recent turnaround successes. That is why the stock prices of newly rejuvenated airline companies like Continental and UAL, the parent of United, have far outpaced American's in terms of percentage gains.

American is a more steady performer, said Kevin C. Murphy, an industry analyst at Morgan Stanley. "They didn't have much low-hanging fruit to pick."

At the industry's nadir, in the early 1990's, Mr. Crandall saw labor costs as American's big problem. Those costs left the airline's competitive position so bleak, he said then, that the company might have to shrink sharply and perhaps even largely abandon the airline business for subsidiary operations. The pilots had their own ideas about fixing American, and they commissioned a study in 1993 to suggest ways to run things better.

Mr. Crandall's frustration and impatience boiled over in a meeting that September with analysts in New York. Mr. Crandall said the pilots' plan would ruin the airline. That plan, never adopted, would have used more American planes for shuttle-type service.

"If the pilots were in charge, Columbus would still be in port," he had said. "They believe the assertion that the world is flat."

Such remarks served only to widen the gulf between the two sides, many industry experts said. And Mr. Crandall, whose analytical skills helped him win many a debate, has not been able to convince the pilots of this more recently.

"People who want to preserve unnatural work restrictions or unnatural inefficiencies are kidding themselves," he said at last month's breakfast meeting, his first wide-ranging interview in more than two years. "I get very impatient with them."

He added: "My inability to persuade them that their self-interest is oriented toward growth, even if growth has to occur in ways that they think are not optimal, is very frustrating. My frustrations are completely a reflection of my desire to see the airline do more and do better."

American's pilots earn more than most of their counterparts at United States carriers, according to Air Inc., a career consulting firm for pilots. While the American pilots start out low, earning less than \$30,000 a year, they can get more than \$200,000 a year by the time they retire, at age 60. Over a 30-year career that began in 1996, they would average \$125,000 annually (in current dollars), not including other benefits or retirement plans, Air Inc. said. American's profit-sharing plan is also among the most generous in the industry.

Many pilots said their vote last week was for higher pay and against the company's desire to introduce jets to the fleet of its American Eagle commuter subsidiary, fearing that the planes would be used to take over some of their routes, thereby threatening their jobs. (The pilots at American Eagle are represented by a different union.)

They said the vote was not meant as a rebuke of Mr. Crandall, who, in fact, sent his president, Donald J. Carly, to reach the tentative agree-



Robert Crandall

ment last fall with the pilots' leadership.

But the pilots clearly have a very personal beef with Mr. Crandall, particularly over his compensation. In 1988, to get him to turn down a job offer from a competing airline, AMR's board granted Mr. Crandall an award of stock, to be distributed in eight annual installments. The stock was valued at \$12 million at the time. The value of AMR's shares has increased by more than 150 percent since then.

Since that award was made, Mr. Crandall's regular annual compensation has typically been less than \$1 million. Last year, when American's revenues were about \$16 billion, he received \$662,500 in salary, with no bonus.

Still, many pilots think he is overpaid. A cartoon in the May 1996 issue of their union's magazine, Flight Line, shows Mr. Crandall running an AMR staff meeting. He is pointing to a sign on the wall next to him. Titled "AMR Transition Plan," the sign has an arrow pointing from a dollar sign to a likeness of his face. "Get it from the pilots," the cartoon shows Mr. Crandall saying.

The cartoon is part of a package of articles on AMR executive compensation that includes a time line showing how Mr. Crandall's pay, with the big stock award factored in, was increasing as he was winning concessions from pilots. The cover of the magazine reads: "The Amazing AMR Corp. Magic Show! Featuring Increased Executive Salaries, Record Profits, Large Executive Bonuses, Plus... the Newest Trick... Watch in Awe as Pilot Pay Cuts Appear Before Your Very Eyes!!!"

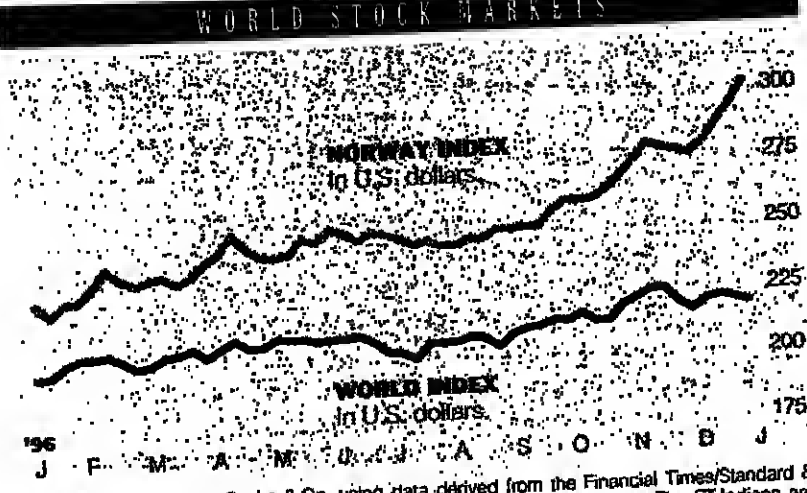
"He's getting increases in compensation because of the money he's saving the company," said Glenn Schaffer, a pilot who helped to coordinate a lobbying effort among his colleagues to vote against the tentative labor agreement. "Mr. Crandall is a brilliant man, but at a certain point in time it becomes unethical and immoral for corporations to use employees to push downward on wages and working conditions to increase their own compensation," he said.

In last month's interview, Mr. Crandall said the pilots were way off base. "The idea that I'm going to get individually rich if the company does well just isn't right," he said. "That isn't the way compensation plans are structured. It hasn't happened and it isn't going to happen."

Mr. Crandall received some backing recently when Graef Crystal, the widely quoted expert on executive compensation, wrote an article for the November issue of D, a magazine about Dallas, called "The Most Overpaid (and Underpaid) Chief Executives in Dallas." The section titled, "Why Robert Crandall Doesn't Make Enough Money" has its own cartoonish illustration, showing Mr. Crandall holding out a cup, as a beggar would, by the side of a road.

By Mr. Crystal's calculations, Mr. Crandall's total compensation package, including the stock award, was 69 percent less over the last three years than that of chief executives running companies of similar size with similar profitability.

"By my way of thinking, this is exemplary behavior," Mr. Crystal said in an interview. "He would certainly be a finalist in the Mother Teresa contest of C.E.O.'s in America."



Prepared by Goldman, Sachs & Co. using data derived from the Financial Times/Standard & Poor's Actuaries World Indices, a measure of stock market performance. The FT indices are compiled jointly by The Financial Times Limited, Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Standard & Poor's in conjunction with the Institute of Actuaries and Faculty of Actuaries.

Country	PERFORMANCE				IN U.S. DOLLARS				IN LOCAL CURR.			
	Index	Week % Chg.	Week Rank	YTD % Chg.	Index	Week % Chg.	Week Rank	YTD % Chg.	Index	Week % Chg.	Week Rank	YTD % Chg.
Australia	217.24	-0.6	23	-2.1	23	4.12	185.14	-0.4				
Austria	185.39	-1.4	27	-2.4	25	1.87	152.56	0.4				
Belgium	227.97	1.2	15	0.1	18	3.51	183.59	2.9				
Brazil	200.85	6.5	3	5.9	4	1.59	384.79	6.1				
Britain	274.54	-1.4	26	-3.0	27	3.92	242.22	-1.3				
Canada	195.23	3.2	7	2.8	8	1.93	190.55	1.1				
Denmark	353.91	1.2	16	0.6	15	1.51	290.24	2.8				
Finland	232.66	3.8	6	2.9	7	1.99	250.30	5.3				
France	210.28	0.5	21	-1.8	21	2.77	178.24	1.7				
Germany	188.05	-0.8	19	-1.0	20	1.56	154.87	-2.1				
Hong Kong	496.06	-0.4	22	-2.2	24	3.16	492.81	5.2				
Indonesia	239.98	3.6	5	5.2	5	1.48	347.88	2.2				
Ireland	326.04	0.7	20	-0.2	19	3.28	279.74	8.7				
Italy	89.50	8.1	2	7.2	2	2.04	103.06	2.2				
Japan	116.93	-0.3	28	-9.4	28	0.90	85.68	-9.5				
Malaysia	618.09	2.7	8	2.5	12	1.05	590.71	0.7				
Mexico	1,305.70	5.5	4	7.0	3	0.98	11,219.39	6.9				
Netherlands	327.17	-1.0	24	-2.7	26	2.78	265.45	0.0				
New Zealand	94.27	1.9	12	2.7	9	3.93	71.01	3.0				
Norway	305.67	2.7	9	3.4	6	1.90	265.15	3.5				
Philippines	208.97	1.9	13	2.6	10	0.61	274.28	2.8				
Singapore	426.10	1.1	18	1.5	13	1.00	275.88	1.9				
South Africa	319.87	-2.1	11	0.5	16	2.41	327.20	0.5				
Spain	222.63	2.2	10	1.3	14	2.78	222.92	2.9				
Sweden	422.88	1.2	17	0.2	17	2.05	432.33	1.4				
Switzerland	233.70	-1.2	25	-2.0	22	1.46	199.30	0.4				
Thailand	102.75	12.6	1	7.3	1	3.36	102.16	7.2				
United States	309.30	1.6	14	2.5	11	1.91	309.30	2.5				

COMPOSITE INDICES	IN U.S. DOLLARS				IN LOCAL CURR.			
	Index	Week % Chg.	Week Rank	YTD % Chg.	Index	Week % Chg.	Week Rank	YTD % Chg.
Europe	236.23	0.1		-1.4	2.82	205.90	0.7	
Pacific Basin	138.04	-6.8		-7.2	1.39	101.65	-3.0	
Europe/Pacific	178.92	-3.1		-4.1	2.18	141.01	-0.3	
World	222.34	-0.7		-0.8	2.04	193.56	-0.3	

Exchange rate	CURRENCIES			
	Friday	Last Friday	Week % Chg.	Year Ago
Japanese yen to the U.S. dollar	118.06	116.43	-0.31	105.25
German mark to the U.S. dollar	1.5855	1.5844	+1.34	1.4440
Canadian dollars to the U.S. dollar	1.3482	1.3708	-1.64	1.3632
U.S. dollars to the British pound	1.6907	1.6901	-0.55	1.5465

Source: Bloomberg Financial Markets; exchange rates as of Friday's New York close.

Jan. 6-10: The Dow Finishes Above 6,700, but Bonds and Asian Markets Drop

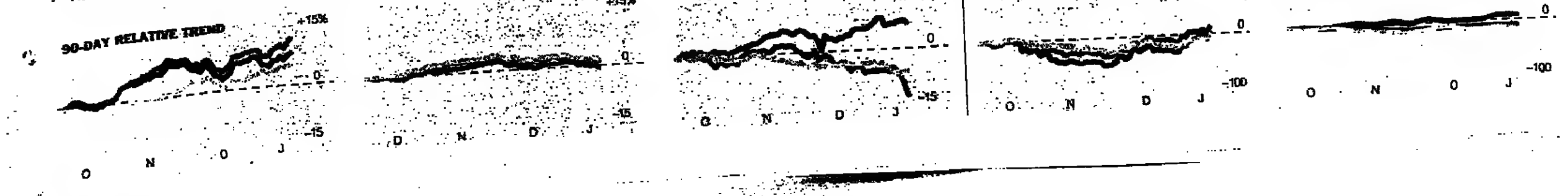
PRICES	
DOMESTIC EQUITIES	
Broad market S & P 500 index	Up 1.53% 759.50
Blue chips Dow 30 industrials	Up 2.44% 6,703.79
Small capitalization Russell 2000 index	Up 1.17% 366.09

DOMESTIC BONDS	
Treasuries	Down 0.51% 192.98
Ryan Labs. Total Return	Down 1.17% 115.47
Municipals Bond Buyer index	Down 0.50% 839.49
Merrill Lynch Master index	

AROUND THE WORLD	
European stocks F.T.-Actuaries Europe	Up 0.16% 236.23
Asian stocks F.T.-Actuaries Pacific Basin	Down 6.82% 138.04
Gold New York cash price	Down 0.50% \$360.20

YIELDS	
Long bonds	6.84%
30-year Treasuries	Up 11 basis pts.
Notes	6.02%
2-year Treasuries	Up 8 basis pts.
Municipals Bond Buyer index	5.86% Up 9 basis pts.

OTHER INVESTMENTS	
Money market funds Taxable average	4.89% Down 1 basis pt.
Bank C.D.'s 1-year small savers	5.03% Unchanged
Stocks S. & P. 500 dividend yield	1.96% Down 5 b.p.



Sources: Bank Rate Monitor; Bloomberg Financial Markets; The Bond Buyer; Datastream; Goldman, Sachs; IBC's Money Fund Report; Merrill Lynch; Standard & Poor's; Ryan Labs

The New York Times

Founded in 1851

ADOLPH S. OCHS, Publisher 1896-1935
ARTHUR HAYS SULZBERGER, Publisher 1935-1961
OUSTLE E. DRYFOOS, Publisher 1961-1993
ARTHUR OCHS SULZBERGER, Publisher 1963-1992

ARTHUR OCHS SULZBERGER JR., Publisher

JOSEPH LELYNEL, Executive Editor
GENE ROBERTS, Managing Editor

Assistant Managing Editors
SOMA GOLDEN BEHR, CAROLYN LEE
GERALD M. BOND, JACK ROSENTHAL
DAVID R. JONES, ALLAN M. SEGAL

MOWELL RAINES, Editorial Page Editor
PHILIP M. BOFFEY, Deputy Editorial Page Editor

JANET L. ROBINSON, President, General Manager
WILLIAM L. POLLAK, Executive VP, Circulation
PENILOPE MUSEMBENATY, Senior VP, Planning and Human Resources
DANIEL H. COHEN, Senior VP, Advertising
RICHARD H. GILMAN, Senior VP, Operations
RAYMOND E. DOUGLAS, VP, Systems and Technology
DONNA C. NIEL, VP, Human Resources
CHARLES E. SHELTON, VP, Distribution
DAVID A. THURM, VP, Production

The Republicans' Moment of Truth

In the annals of obstructive behavior, it would be hard to match the tactics of Newt Gingrich's Republican friends. First, they re-elected Mr. Gingrich as House Speaker before the ethics committee had completed its inquiry into his activities. Then they said the vote on his punishment would be held before the committee issued its final report. Then they tried to shorten the public hearings and deny the committee's special counsel the money needed to finish his work. The clear message from all these actions is that the Republicans want to squelch any serious inquiry into Mr. Gingrich's suitability for his job.

But the questions of Mr. Gingrich's fitness for high office are now more urgent than ever. As reported Friday by The Times's Adam Clymer, there is now a tape recording of a conversation between Mr. Gingrich and his senior Republican colleagues in the House in which they discuss ways to orchestrate an attack on the ethics committee's charges — despite an agreement Mr. Gingrich's lawyers made with the committee to do no such thing. In a sense, the discussion parallels what Mr. Gingrich was accused of doing in the original ethics charge — disdaining the rules when he set up a college course, financed by tax-exempt foundations, as part of the Republican electoral strategy in 1994.

The ethics committee must realize that the integrity of Congress itself is on the line. Given the public's growing revulsion over arrogance and political corruption, it is scarcely believable that the 105th session of Congress is opening on such a blatantly cynical note.

Only a few days remain for Representative Nancy Johnson of Connecticut to rescue her reputation and that of her committee from the tatters to which it has been reduced. The committee should open for business tomorrow, as originally planned.

The special counsel, James Cole, should be allowed to present his conclusions about what Mr. Gingrich did, followed by hearings. Then the committee should decide Mr. Gingrich's punishment and issue a report. Then some time should elapse. Then the House should vote.

The process need not be drawn out. Neither should it be rushed. A vote by the House on Feb. 4, when it returns to Washington for the State of the Union Message, makes vastly more sense than holding the vote on Jan. 21, as the Republican leadership now insists. It makes no sense to vote until after Mr. Cole completes his report, and he has made it clear that he needs more time.

Mr. Cole, a former Justice Department prosecutor, needs to be listened to. Right now, Mr. Gingrich has in effect pleaded guilty to two misdeeds he characterizes as technical — filing false information to the ethics committee about the college course he was teaching and failing to consult lawyers about whether he was violating tax laws in tapping funds from tax-exempt foundations for the course. But to decide the punishment, Congress needs to know what the evidence shows about Mr. Gingrich's intent. It appears, for example, that the course was set up only after it was clear that the Speaker's own political-action committee had run out of funds, and there was a need to get other funds to help elect Republicans.

The question before the House is whether there was a systematic effort by the Speaker to defraud the Treasury by raising tax-exempt funds for a course clearly aimed at buttressing the Republican cause and then misrepresenting what he was doing to the public and the ethics committee. Only a thorough hearing of the evidence can answer that question to the satisfaction of the House members who must decide Mr. Gingrich's fate.

A Chance to Ban Chemical Weapons

With the world's most ambitious effort to ban chemical weapons rapidly taking shape, the United States stands awkwardly on the sidelines, in the embarrassing company of pariah nations like Iraq and Libya. This is because Senate Republicans, at the behest of Presidential candidate Bob Dole, scuttled an expected ratification vote on the Chemical Weapons Convention last fall. Rather than accept the crippling amendments these senators demanded, the Clinton Administration withdrew the treaty from Senate consideration.

As a new Senate session begins, Trent Lott, the majority leader, can make amends and demonstrate statesmanship by bringing the agreement up for an early vote and gathering enough Republican support to assure the needed two-thirds majority.

The Chemical Weapons Convention bans the development, production, stockpiling and use of chemical weapons. It is backed by a rigorous international inspection system and restrictions on trade in commercially used chemicals that can be turned into weapons ingredients. It represents a substantial advance over the Geneva Convention of 1925, which only prohibits countries from initiating the use of chemical weapons in combat. Republicans should not have much trouble warming to this agreement. Most of its provisions were shaped by negotiators from the Republican Administrations of Ronald Reagan and George Bush. The United States signed the convention in the waning days of Mr. Bush's Presidency.

More than 160 countries have signed the agreement and 67 have ratified it. The convention's administrative staff and corps of inspectors formally begin operations in April. But until the United States ratifies, American citizens will be ineligible

to serve on these bodies — forfeiting the chance to influence budgetary decisions and inspection practices that the American negotiators worked hard to secure. The \$60 billion annual export business of America's chemical industry also faces risks. In a few years tough trade restrictions come into effect against countries that have not ratified the convention. The chemical industry estimates that could cost the United States \$600 million in lost exports every year ratification is delayed.

In opposing the treaty last fall, Mr. Dole and others cited the potential for undetected violations, the allegedly burdensome requirements on American chemical companies and the number of other countries that had either not yet signed or not ratified the convention.

The Pentagon acknowledges that some chemicals could elude the inspection system but says no militarily significant quantities could get through. Violations would, in any event, be more readily detected with the treaty than without it. The United States chemical industry helped negotiate the inspection and paperwork rules for commercial companies and strongly supports treaty ratification.

Since last fall, China has completed all but the last diplomatic formalities of ratification and Russia's parliament has taken important initial steps. Most of the other major military powers, like Britain, France, Germany and India, have ratified.

A majority of senators have declared their support for the treaty, including Republicans like Richard Lugar of Indiana, Ted Stevens of Alaska and John Warner of Virginia. Bringing support to the two-thirds threshold is up to Mr. Lott. It seems an ideal opportunity for him to rise above partisanship and act in the interest of all Americans.

A Threat to the Adirondacks

If anyone needed a reason why it was important for New Yorkers to pass the environmental bond act last November, Marylou Whitney has just provided one. Mrs. Whitney, the heir to one of America's great fortunes, is also the owner of one of America's largest unspoiled tracts of private wilderness, 51,000 acres of forests, streams and lakes in New York's Adirondack Park. She now proposes to subdivide 15,000 acres of that land into 40 lots averaging about 300 acres. Mrs. Whitney promises to take precautions to protect the environment, but common sense suggests that chopping 15,000 acres of contiguous wilderness into what her press release calls "40 exclusive shoreline estates" would be ecologically harmful.

Mrs. Whitney has submitted her scheme to the Adirondack Park Agency, which in effect operates as the zoning commission for the park's six million acres. That agency is now dominated by people who favor development over conservation and is therefore likely to approve the plan. If it does, and if market conditions are right, the developers will come running with bids — unless Gov. George Pataki moves first.

Encouragingly, Mr. Pataki said Wednesday that the state would try to buy the land. We hope he holds to that promise, because adding Mrs. Whitney's land to the state's forest preserve would be a far better outcome than selling it to developers. Of course, the price has to be right. Since 1990, environmental and recreation groups have tried to persuade Albany to buy all 51,000 acres, and there have been suggestions that Mrs. Whitney's latest plan is a

ploy to drive up the price the state will ultimately have to pay for her entire holdings. She denies this, but the figures being bandied about — as much as \$1,000 an acre — would imply a total outlay of \$60 million for the 15,000 acres alone.

That is more than half the \$100 million in the state's Environmental Protection Fund, which must cover a wide range of needs. It would eat up much of the \$150 million reserved for land acquisition under the environmental bond act — money that is supposed to be distributed statewide, not just to Mrs. Whitney's wallet. But if Mr. Pataki bargains hard and thinks creatively, he can work things out.

For bargaining, he can call upon a shrewd negotiator, his counsel Michael Finnegan, who played a major role in crafting a deal between New York City and upstate communities to clean up the city's water supply. As for creativity, Mr. Pataki should try to tap as many funding sources as possible so as not to put too much strain on any one revenue stream. The bond act, for example, provides money not only for land acquisition but also for watershed protection, and the Whitney property includes some of the Adirondacks' most valuable lakes. He might seek money from the Interior Department's Land and Water Conservation Fund, which was established for precisely this purpose.

Although Mr. Pataki is unlikely to move ahead on any environmental project without consulting the State Legislature, the bond act gives the Governor and his executive agencies the upper hand in drawing up spending priorities. The Whitney estate should be at or near the top of that list.

'Intent' Has No Part in Assisted Suicide Debate

To the Editor:

In their attack on physician-assisted suicide, George J. Annas and Michael A. Grodin (Op-Ed, Jan. 8) distinguish between a physician prescribing sedatives intending to cause death and one prescribing sedatives intending to relieve pain, even when the pain-relieving dose is likely to cause death. The former is a villain; the latter a saint. "Intent matters," the authors say. Perhaps so, but the "intent" to which they refer is mental and subjective. It has never had status in any legal system, and it should not, because its existence is not verifiable. Dr. A prescribes a lethal dose, intending to cause death but foreseeing that pain will end. Dr. B prescribes a lethal

dose, intending that pain cease but foreseeing that death will occur. Short of telepathy, how can a judge distinguish the intent of A from that of B? The behavior is the same, and the consequences the same.

In the 13th century, Thomas Aquinas distinguished the intent of A from the intent of B, but he had recourse to a God who could tell them apart. American judges, lacking a cosmic connection, must base their judgment on observable behavior and reasonably foreseeable consequences. They must view A and B as both villains, or both saints.

DOUGLAS P. LACKEY
New York, Jan. 8, 1997
The author is a professor of philosophy at Baruch College, CUNY.

The Doctor's Role

To the Editor:

George J. Annas and Michael A. Grodin (Op-Ed, Jan. 8) do not fully address the legal and factual arguments for assisted suicide.

The factual argument has its roots in the brute fact that there are some terminally ill patients who wish to die a dignified death. The legal argument has its roots in the notion that the Constitution correctly endorses the state's right to restrict the practice of medicine to physicians. If only physicians can prescribe medicine, then only physicians can give practical meaning to our right to die.

The state's constitutionally protected public health policies serve the public well. It is just that as a result of public policy, those who desperately want a dignified death on their own terms cannot have one without the help of a physician.

GEORGE STACK
Great Neck, L.I., Jan. 9, 1997

'Sentence First — Verdict Afterward?'

To the Editor:

Re your Jan. 9 editorial on the Supreme Court's decision that in sentencing a convicted defendant, Federal judges may take into account previous charges, even though the defendant was acquitted of them.

The Court focused on what it said is an important distinction between differing burdens of proof — proof beyond a reasonable doubt in the guilt phase and proof by a preponderance of the evidence in sentencing. But no careful parsing of when and where the different burdens of proof apply can still the uneasy feeling that there is something amiss in a legal system in which juries or judges, as if in Alice's Wonderland, could discover that up is down and down is up, that the same person is both innocent and guilty of committing the very same act.

There is more at stake in the Court's decision than mere lawyerly quibbles about burdens of proof. As you say, the decision undercuts the jury system. It also separates legal procedures from common-sense moral judgment and sends an unsettling message about the roles of juries at a time when our increasingly pluralistic society needs some mechanism for putting to rest deeply disputed questions of fact. Social peace depends in no small measure on the extent to which all of us can have confidence that a jury's verdict, especially in criminal cases involving hotly contested social issues, does indeed speak the truth. If a verdict is incomprehensible except for what it says about the pros-



Scott Cunningham

education's ability to meet its burden of proof, then why should any conflict case? Why should anyone be satisfied with, or abide by, that verdict?

Only if the Supreme Court projects confidence that what is found by a jury is more than a probabilistic judgment based on the artificial conventions of legal proof can we begin to rebuild the essential confidence in trial by jury that has been so shaken by the cases of Rodney King, O. J. Simpson and countless others. Unfortunately, the Court's decision in this case, though it will be less noted and less celebrated than those others, is yet another serious blow to that confidence.

AUSTIN SARAT
Amherst, Mass., Jan. 9, 1997
The writer is a professor of political science at Amherst College.

Supreme Court, Not Pornographer, Is the Hero of 'Larry Flynt'

To the Editor:

I am puzzled and disappointed by Gloria Steinem's misrepresentations (Op-Ed, Jan. 7) of the film "The People vs. Larry Flynt," which I directed. To support her attack, she blurs or erases the clear distinction between the goals, philosophy and themes of my movie and those of Hustler magazine.

Despite her assertions, my film does not glorify Larry Flynt, even if we have not presented him as the incarnation of pure evil envisioned and demanded by Ms. Steinem.

Artists have always been drawn to the compelling mystery of ambiguity and of gray areas. The certainties of black and white are best left to the clergy. Was it courage, rage or self-interest that propelled Larry Flynt through the many battles that culminated in the Supreme Court? Gleeful disturber-of-the-peace or tenacious fighter for freedom of expression?

Was Oskar Schindler, the German industrialist who protected Jews from the Nazis, a rogue or a hero? Did he save lives for humane reasons or use slave labor for very profitable results?

Ms. Steinem invokes the Nazi terror to bolster her assault on me and the film. Despite my own distaste for pornography, one must acknowledge the vast gulf between vulgarity and a

feeling of respect, admiration or even gratitude for the individuals who have caused a reaffirmation of the Bill of Rights.

As a signatory and contributor to the full-page advertisement that appeared in The New York Times some years ago supporting Mr. Flynt's rights, I was treated to a token of his gratitude: a videotape of news reports chronicling his court victories — interspersed with graphic scenes of various sexual acts. Mr. Flynt had seemingly concluded that we had endorsed his taste as well as his rights. He was mistaken.

To my mind, one fact has been underreported: Neither Mr. Forman nor his producers felt comfortable in presenting any of the images that were and are the heart and soul of Hustler magazine. The Supreme Court liberated Larry Flynt. Why not "Larry Flynt"? — PETER STONE
New York, Jan. 7, 1997
The writer is a screenwriter.

The Best and the Worst

To the Editor:

Gloria Steinem gets its right ("Hollywood Cleans Up Hustler," Op-Ed, Jan. 7). None of us involved in motion pictures can deny Milos Forman's talent; no one who has seen "The People vs. Larry Flynt" can disparage his directorial skills.

Further, few can argue with the inherent political statement: It often takes the worst of us to provoke the arguments that protect the rest of us, even the best of us. But that sentence does not automatically require any

Government for Sale: Contributors Welcome

To the Editor:

The Jan. 5 Week in Review article "Asian Money, American Fears" is a perfect example of how the American left continues to cast issue after issue in racial terms.

The issue of foreign contributors donating money to Democratic Party campaign coffers is not one of American prejudice. The real issue is that the Democratic Party left the impression with the American public that these illegal donations may have influenced American foreign policy. The larger issue is that Americans are sick and tired of having the Government up for sale, particularly the Presidency.

JAMES S. BROWN
Chicago, Jan. 7, 1997

Your newspaper has reported at least two incidents when such pressure was brought to bear.

A Nov. 20, 1991, front-page article reported that after Matsushita acquired Universal Pictures as part of the MCA deal, the studio changed the plot of the film "Mr. Baseball" to make the American hero accept the Japanese approach to the all-American sport.

A Feb. 5, 1992, article reported that the Sony-owned Tristar Pictures dropped "Hell Camp" after 15 months of preparation time and expense because the Sumo Association of Japan found its portrayals of some wrestlers somehow "unflattering."

ALAN R. WEEKS
New York, Jan. 5, 1997

Japanese Editing

To the Editor:

The Jan. 5 Week in Review article "Asian Money, American Fears" implies the implausibility of Japanese-owned American movie studios killing scripts that are unflattering to the Japanese people or those things they hold in high esteem.

The Times welcomes letters from readers. Letters must include the writer's name, address and telephone number. Those selected may be shortened for space reasons. Fax letters to (212) 556-3622 or send by electronic mail to letters@nytimes.com, or by regular mail to Letters to the Editor, The New York Times, 229 West 43d Street, New York, N.Y. 10036-3959.

The New York Times Company
229 West 43d St., N.Y. 10036-3959

ARTHUR OCHS SULZBERGER, Chairman
Chief Executive Officer
RUSSELL T. LEWIS, President
Chief Operating Officer
DIANE P. BAKER, Senior Vice President
Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer
KATHARINE P. DARBON, Senior Vice President
LEONARD P. FORMAN, Senior Vice President
JOHN M. O'BRIEN, Senior Vice President
DONALD S. SCHNEIDER, Senior Vice President
SOLOMON S. WATSON IV, Senior Vice President
LAURA J. CORWIN, Secretary

Women's Place

To the Editor:

Gloria Steinem's monocular vision notwithstanding, "pornography" is no more a single-faceted entity than the mainstream culture it derives from — or feminizes itself. Her Jan. 7 Op-Ed article, although it discusses Milos Forman's film "The People vs. Larry Flynt," is actually a rehash of 15 years of anti-pornography arguments. But there are committed, longtime feminists, like me, who believe that, like the culture at large, pornography consists of many degrading images of women and a few liberating images.

Some of us also believe that pornography, situated at the margins of that culture, reflects but does not cause the oppression of women, and that to throw stones at it is to waste our time attacking a reflection while leaving that which it reflects standing.

In such a view, if all pornography disappeared tomorrow, sexism would emerge unscathed; whereas, if we succeeded in rooting out sexism, pornography as we know it would fade away. So would such equally degrading Madison Avenue images as the commercials that have taught more women their "place" than all the copies of Hustler magazine ever printed.

JUDITH MAHONEY PASTERNAK
New York, Jan. 8, 1997

Left Turn on Gingrich

To the Editor:

Your Jan. 8 editorial on the reelection of Newt Gingrich as Speaker is shocking. One always appreciated that your views were stated left. This was considered good because a diversity of opinion is what democracy is about. However, hysteria over an offense equivalent to jay walking — Mr. Gingrich's admission to this offense was a tactic to take the ammunition from those exercising a vendetta — is beyond reason. It appears that you have made a sharp left turn.

SAELDON SILVERSTON
New York, Jan. 8, 1997

Handwritten signature or mark at the bottom of the page.

Foreign Affairs
THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN

Read All About It

China's going to have a free press. Oh, China's leaders don't know it yet, but they are being pushed straight in that direction. Just look at what happened in the last two weeks of December.

During 1996 the two hottest stock markets in Asia were in China — the Shanghai and Shenzhen stock exchanges. Between April 1 and Dec. 9, Shanghai's composite index was up 120 percent, while Shenzhen's was up 315 percent.

One reason these two stock markets are so hot is that they are so unregulated, and one reason they are so unregulated is that China has only the most rudimentary securities and exchange system, and it has virtually no independent, uncorrupted financial press that can credibly highlight the quality stocks and brutally expose those flim-flam Chinese companies that don't report timely, accurate or transparent financial data.

Last December, China's Government realized the Shanghai and Shenzhen markets were out of control — because of all sorts of wild speculation and unseemly trading practices — but its tools for dealing with this were limited to one sledgehammer: the state-owned press. So, on Dec. 16 The People's Daily, China's official paper, published a blistering editorial warning that stock prices had been pushed to "irrational" and "abnormal" levels.

Guess what happened? Everyone tried to sell at once, both markets plunged and a lot of little investors got hurt — so many that police had to keep order among furious investors who staged protests outside brokerage houses in several major Chinese cities. The Asian Wall Street Journal reported: "Outside a brokerage house in Beijing, a worker groused that he'd lost 20,000 yuan (about \$2,400) so far this week. . . . Before the People's Daily opened its mouth, there was a balance between buying and selling, a man in a leather jacket declared, to shouts of approval from dozens of other investors. After that, nobody has dared buy. The market is sinking."

China's stock markets and a free press.

Today, 21 million Chinese own stock. With so many new shareholders, lots of stock-oriented newspapers and magazines have sprung up. But none really reported effectively on regulatory lapses, or on the state-owned enterprises that were manipulating the markets, or on the Chinese banks that were improperly speculating on stocks, so these papers were little more than taut sheets at a horse race track.

Indeed, a commentary to the Communist Party newspaper Renmin Ribao stated: "A number of media organizations have played a significant role in boosting the market by consistently predicting rises and seldom cautioning investors against risks."

The moral of this story: Sure China's rapid growth allows it to resist external pressure for change. It's so big now it can buy off everybody by dangling huge contracts. But China's rapid growth actually fuels internal pressures for change, by creating new constituencies — like shareholders — who demand reform for their own self-interest. Over time, China's leaders simply can't control and monitor their bursting free markets, or prevent little people from getting hurt and then rioting against the Government, without the other institutions that must go with free markets — from an effective S.E.C. to a free and responsible press backed by rule of law.

Of course, China's authoritarian leaders don't want a free and responsible press that might also criticize them. So how do they balance that concern with their growing self-interest in a press that could help them monitor markets and prevent the worst excesses? That's their problem. But it's important to understand that this is now their problem, and that there are these internal pressures on them to look at the press differently, and that therefore U.S. human rights policy on China should try to nurture that trend. (Let's send them a delegation led by Arthur Levitt, head of the S.E.C., and some big-time business editors — instead of more Tarzan chest-pounding lectures from State Department human rights officers.)

One thing that contributed to the Soviet Union's collapse was the nuclear meltdown at Chernobyl. Without a responsible free press, Chernobyl rumors ran wild. They were even worse than reality and they devastated what little confidence there was in the Soviet regime. I hope it won't take a meltdown of the Shanghai stock market to spur a free press in China.

Forget the Bells and Whistles

By Michael K. Deaver

WASHINGTON — The staging is nearly in place for President Clinton's second inaugural. With tents sprouting on the Mall, with souvenirs being hawked on QVC and with laser shows being installed to Washington hotel ballrooms, it appears as if we're in for another star-studded celebratory gala.

But is this the appropriate tone for this particular inauguration?

If any President was entitled to an inaugural extravaganza, it was Ronald Reagan in January 1985. After all, with 59 percent of the vote, he trounced Walter Mondale to win a second term. But Mr. Reagan was a modest man with a sense of history.

While planning his second inauguration, I thought we needed to look beyond the immediate moment to find our focus. The result was a quieter day than might otherwise have occurred, and I think the sense of pause we achieved made a real contribution to President Reagan's second term.

President Clinton would do well to look to President Reagan's example. After all, he hardly won a convincing mandate. Only 48 percent of those eligible to vote found it within themselves to do so, making for the lowest voter turnout ever. As Mr. Clinton is painfully aware, he is only the second President — Woodrow Wilson was the first — to win two terms without winning a majority of votes in either of his races.

To add to his troubles, President Clinton continues to be confronted by a Republican majority in both houses of Congress. And, as he himself recently said, we as a nation seem stuck in a spiritual funk.

Under the circumstances, my advice to President Clinton would be to tone things down.

There will be those who say such advice is gratuitous coming from me, the "vicar of spin," the "maestro of smoke and mirrors."

But I'll say it again. Enough of the bells and whistles, Mr. President. In your speech, cut to the chase. There's work to be done and little time to build the bridge to the 21st century.

We've heard plenty about problems and solutions from both sides. What we need is leadership. We need a President who can show us the way out of our cynicism and sense of malaise. We need a President who can shift the national mindset, who can infuse us with ambition and optimism, who can change the terms of our public debates.

I am convinced that more of us than not would really appreciate President Clinton if he could find a

malaise. We need a President who can shift the national mindset, who can infuse us with ambition and optimism, who can change the terms of our public debates.

I am convinced that more of us than not would really appreciate President Clinton if he could find a

malaise. We need a President who can shift the national mindset, who can infuse us with ambition and optimism, who can change the terms of our public debates.

I am convinced that more of us than not would really appreciate President Clinton if he could find a

Inauguration Day tips from the 'vicar of spin.'

malaise. We need a President who can shift the national mindset, who can infuse us with ambition and optimism, who can change the terms of our public debates.

I am convinced that more of us than not would really appreciate President Clinton if he could find a

Liberties

MAUREEN DOWD

Leaders As Followers

WASHINGTON

Dick Morris once said that every time Bill Clinton had a problem, he got a poll in his head.

That, as it turns out, was a sad understatement.

Every time Bill Clinton had a vacation, he got a poll in his head. In 1995, worried that the Clintons' last vacation sailing with Jackie O. in Martha's Vineyard had not been suitably populist, Mr. Morris recommended that the President go on a mountain vacation with high-tech gear. A White House poll on "life-style clusters" had shown that swing voters liked camping, hiking and technology.

The President dutifully went camping and hiking in a national park, but was grumpy afterward.

"That's the first vacation I've taken that didn't help me in the polls," Mr. Clinton said irritably upon his return, according to Mr. Morris's new memoir. "The first one. After all my other vacations, I've always risen a point or two. This vacation I didn't go up at all."

Dick Morris, guru, savior, weasel.

How many points for camping?

has produced his book, "Behind the Oval Office." It is, of course, a story of passion and betrayal.

But in this bodice ripper, the bodice doesn't belong to the call girl who caused Mr. Morris's expulsion from paradise. Like all Washington love stories, the intimacy is between two men. The unholy tale of a President and pollster locked, like a couple of bookies, in an obsessive relationship about point spreads.

"Like the elusive Rochester in the life of Jane Eyre, Clinton would unpredictably, suddenly fit into and out of my life," Mr. Morris thrills.

The prose is panting. When Mr. Clinton's lips curled into a sneer, Mr. Morris's blood froze. Before the President remembered he was alive in 1994, Mr. Morris writhed "in self-inflicted frustration." But then his "vibrating paper" went off. The President was calling for advice on Haiti. Mr. Morris shivered. "My body was there, but my mind walked on a high plain somewhere else. . . . A fix, rushing, warning, stimulating, enticing, addicting. . . . I don't know anything about Haiti."

But they were united, and Mr. Clinton was once again looming over him "like a sequoia." Mr. Morris fussed over his ties before White House meetings. "Did this one smack of staid thinking? Did this one make me seem too arrogant?"

He even cherished the big guy's flaws. "Clinton has prominent bags under his eyes. I like them. . . . but most people don't agree." He said they found a makeup artist — an attractive one — who applied a substance that deflated the President's bags for an hour. (No wonder his staff fretted about the length of his TV speeches.)

The book is a pathetic diary about two mercurial egomaniacs who spend all their time on Presidential make-over, reshaping Mr. Clinton's look, personality, politics and party to match the polls.

Mr. Clinton acts like a big baby, obsessing that he's not getting enough credit for things. And the baby's baby is Mr. Morris, obsessed by sibling rivalry as he competes with other White House aides for Mr. Clinton's attention.

So we have the spectacle of one childish man coaching another childish man on how to act more mature and paternal.

"You seem to care too much about what others think of you," he told the President. "That's not a father's way. . . . You don't look Presidential in light-colored suits."

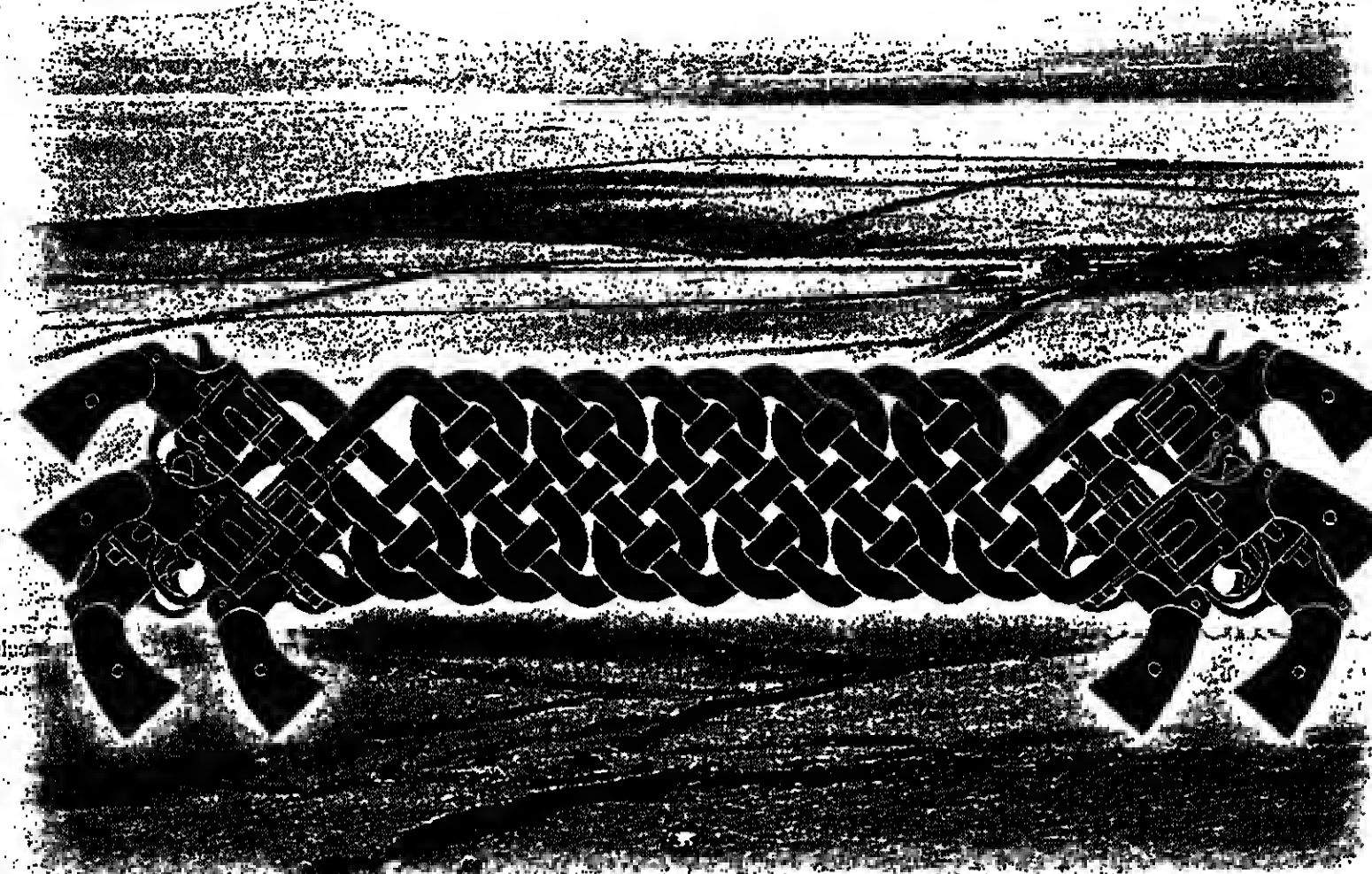
Mr. Morris says he focuses on issues, not image. But what he really means is that you can choose issues to project image. The consultant is excited that the President has provided "a virtually unlimited budget for polling and mail testing" (Hello Lippo?) and that the two see every issue through the prism of Mr. Clinton's popularity.

Mr. Morris's outrage at genocide is touching: "I began to see that the budget and Bosnia were the two keys to repairing the public's perception of the President's weakness."

His conscience is also moved by starving children at home: "I told him flatly that a welfare veto would cost him the election."

Even discounting for Mr. Morris's grandiosity, the lesson of the book is that the Presidency has been corrupted and even ruined by quantitative thinking. All those numbers in the Oval Office are a curse. Mr. Morris's book demonstrates that polling has turned leaders into followers. There will never be such a thing as greatness with a three-to-five-point margin of error.

Michael K. Deaver, director of global public affairs for Edelman Public Relations Worldwide, was chairman of President Ronald Reagan's second inauguration.



A 'Peace Process' as Deadly as War

By Conor Cruise O'Brien

DUBLIN — The so-called peace process in Northern Ireland is disintegrating fast. It started to fall apart last January when the Irish Republican Army, after the bombing of Canary Wharf in London, announced the end of its "cessation of military operations."

Despite increasingly effective countermeasures by the security forces in Northern Ireland, mainland Britain and the Republic of Ireland, the I.R.A. in recent weeks has stepped up its terror campaign, the most spectacular example being its daylight rocket attack on Monday against a security post outside the Northern Ireland High Court. There is now no doubt that the I.R.A. intends to keep up its terror, as much and as long as it can.

The fact is that the term "peace process" has been, from the beginning, merely a slogan for securing political advantages for Roman Catholics and nationalists, who want independence from Britain.

The peace process, as long as it lasted, was fueled by "Hume-Adams," the loose and equivocal but powerful alliance between John Hume, the prominent mainstream Catholic leader and leader of the Social Democratic and Labor Party, and Gerry Adams, the leader of Sinn Fein.

This partnership was enthusiastically supported by the political parties that are basically Catholic and nationalist. Sinn Fein is, and has always been, the political arm of the I.R.A., and could not have entered into the peace process without the I.R.A.'s approval and backing.

The I.R.A. had its own reasons for according a cease-fire, which was all it ever did accord, three and a half years ago. After 20 years of guerrilla warfare, it was still far from attaining what has always been, and remains, its political objectives: "Brits

out" and a united Ireland. So the I.R.A. was open to a cease-fire, with the idea that political advances, in the direction of a united Ireland, could be secured.

The respectable nationalist political parties, both in the Irish Republic and in Northern Ireland, claimed in chorus that the cease-fire was "permanent." Sinn Fein seemed at first to corroborate the "permanent" theory but later withdrew this pretense, presumably under orders from the I.R.A., which had defined the cease-fire as a "complete cessation of violence."

"Complete" and "permanent" are not synonymous, though the moderate nationalists did their best to pretend that they were. During the cease-fire, the I.R.A. escalated its threats to resume violence if there was no progress toward a united Ireland (which most

The I.R.A. was never serious about keeping the cease-fire.

people in Northern Ireland don't want).

The moderate nationalists, who had previously proclaimed the peace process to be permanent, now changed their tune. The peace process was in danger, and the British were loudly denounced for failing to provide the concessions — such as admitting Sinn Fein to broad-based talks — that would "save it."

Looming in the background of this whole debate was the I.R.A.'s huge arsenal. At an early stage, the more naive of the moderate "peace processors" — notably Ireland's Foreign Minister, Dick Spring — had urged the I.R.A. to agree to some measure of disarmament.

But when Sinn Fein conveyed the I.R.A.'s cold refusal, Mr. Spring promptly reversed himself. Very soon he was denouncing the British

for "undermining the peace process" by insisting on the very measure that he had once called for himself.

All that was in the dying days of the cease-fire. When the I.R.A. actually resumed its violence with Canary Wharf, where two people died, its genuinely pacific allies in the peace process were naturally shaken. Shaken, but not totally deterred.

Prime Minister John Bruton of Ireland broke off direct relations with Sinn Fein but allowed officials of the Department of Foreign Affairs to continue their direct discussions with the party. And many commentators and citizens in the Republic continued to blame not those actually responsible for "the breakdown of the cease-fire" — the I.R.A. leaders — but the British for failing to make adequate concessions.

That is how it was for most of last year. But very recently there have been signs of a change, in a direction unfavorable to the I.R.A. The "Hume-Adams" alliance is increasingly strained. Recently, Sinn Fein suggested an alliance between the two parties for contesting the coming United Kingdom elections. Mr. Hume's reply to this suggestion has been colder than anything he has said to Sinn Fein since the beginning of the peace process more than five years ago. He laid down two conditions for an electoral pact.

The first was that the I.R.A. must resume the cease-fire. That probably did not surprise Sinn Fein, and might not prove an insurmountable obstacle. A cease-fire could be allowed to break down once the election was over.

It is the second component of Mr. Hume's reply that must have alarmed Sinn Fein and the I.R.A. Mr. Hume called on Sinn Fein to drop its traditional policy whereby its parliamentary candidates refuse to take their seats at Westminster if elected. According to Mr. Hume, Sinn Fein should be ready to take its seats, which would give the nationalist representatives almost the same number of seats as the unionists to Parliament.

And Mr. Hume made this call in an astringent manner, which must have surprised Sinn Fein after all these years of emolliency. Mr. Hume posed

these questions of Sinn Fein leaders: "Is their concern really to maximize nationalist representation, or is it rather to win partisan advantage within the nationalist community by exploiting nationalist frustration? In other words, is their real target unionism or is it the S.D.L.P., and if it is the latter, how does that fit into their expressed desire for a consensus among Irish nationalists?"

Sinn Fein has rejected Mr. Hume's demand that its members take their seats in Parliament.

But Mr. Hume's words will reverberate. With the decline of the peace process, continuing paramilitary violence — by either side or both — is being increasingly seen as a matter to be handled by the security forces rather than by political negotiations.

This development is much to be welcomed. But unhappily the bad habits produced by the peace process linger on, even as the process itself is in decay. Thus Prime Minister Bruton, in denouncing the attack on Northern Ireland's High Court, called for "the unequivocal and irrevocable restoration of the cease-fire."

This is nonsense. The I.R.A. cease-fire was never unequivocal, as we have seen, and it is so revocable that it was in fact revoked a year ago. But a little lingering nonsense in the air is a small price to pay for the elimination of a dangerously seductive peace process, which has been worked by the I.R.A. for its own benefit.

Note to Readers

The Op-Ed page welcomes unsolicited manuscripts. Because of the volume of submissions, however, we regret that we cannot acknowledge an article or return it, if manuscripts are accepted for publication, authors will be notified within two weeks.

beck ou-

ails

Was

FILM

In the Director's Chair, It Was the Year of the Actor

Suddenly every actor wants to be Kenneth Branagh.

By BETSY SHARKEY

THE BIGGEST movie trend of 1996? It wasn't movies about aliens or movies with music. It was movies directed by actors. And two of those films, Al Pacino's documentary "Looking for Richard" and Stanley Tucci's "Big Night," have not only landed on critics' 10-best lists but are possible candidates for Oscar nominations.

In what is surely a first, dozens of actors switched hats last year. Consider some whose novice efforts appeared in 1996: Tom Hanks with "That Thing You Do!"; Steve Buscemi with "Trees Lounge"; Anjelica Huston with "Bastard Out of Carolina"; Kevin Bacon with "Losing Chase"; Emilio Estevez with "The War at Home"; and Matthew Broderick with "Infinity."

This year audiences will see Jason Alexander's "For Better or Worse," Kevin Spacey's "Albino Alligator" (opening on Friday), Timothy Hutton's "Digging to China," Vondie Curtis-Hall's "Gridlock'd," Alan Rickman's "Winter Guest," David Schwimmer's "Dogwater" and Andy Garcia's "Lost City." Johnny Depp is directing "The Brave." Madonna has said she will direct a movie based on the novel "Going Down."

But if last year's crop of films by actors was any indication, audiences may feel that this year's group offers more threat than promise. Few of these fledgling directors' movies lived up to the standard of "Big Night," a low-budget look at brothers at an Italian restaurant in the 50's. The movie, co-directed with Campbell Scott, has made \$11 million at the box office.

Many more efforts, like "Losing Chase," "Trees Lounge" and "That Thing You Do!" were well received critically but not financial hits. ("That Thing You Do!" for instance, cost nearly \$30 million and has taken in only \$27 million, of which the studio gets half.) "Slith Blade," a film written and directed by Billy Bob Thornton, who also stars in it, landed on some 10-best lists but has made less than \$150,000 in early release at the box office. (The film cost slightly more than \$1 million.) "Unhook the Stars" was heralded more as the return of Gena Rowlands than as a brilliant debut for her actor son, Nick Cassavetes, who directed. And "Infinity," a period film about the physicist Richard Feynman, was perceived as a misfire.

"The problem is that actors have a tendency to think in terms of scenes instead of a whole story," says Peter Bart, the editor of Variety. "What you can end up with too easily is a scene in search of a story."

Bart says that he is most interested in movies that have more than just great performances. "The War at Home," which Emilio Estevez directed, "he says, 'is the personification of what's wrong with actors directing. It's a terrible picture, intellectually dwarfed. I'd much rather watch something that shows real imagination, not just a movie that gives actors time on screen to do their schtick."

Julie Salamon, the author of "The Devil's Candy," which detailed the disastrous making of the film "The Bonfire of the Vanities," says: "There's nothing inherently wrong with actors directing, and there are some wonderful ones. Tim Robbins made an excellent movie in 'Dead Man Walking' and Laurence Olivier was a wonderful director." Olivier received an Oscar nomination for his direction of the 1948 screen adaptation of "Hamlet," in which he also starred. The film won the Oscar for best picture.

"Producers are always taking a chance on a first-time director," says Ms. Salamon, whose most recent book, "The Christmas Tree," was turned into a made-for-television movie directed by Sally Field. "With an actor," Ms. Salamon says, "at least they know where to point the camera. They've experienced a movie being made, versus a writer or someone who's only directed music videos or commercials."

Directors have always numbered actors among their ranks. In fact, some of the most successful directors started out as actors. Penny Marshall ("The Preacher's Wife"), Ron Howard ("Ransom") and Rob Reiner ("Ghosts of Mississippi") have become better known behind the camera than in front of it. These three were character or comic actors, never had big film careers and made the transition to directing seamlessly. Mr. Tucci, if he chose to direct more and act less, might be in this category.

The relative star power of actors tends to determine where they initially find themselves on the directing food chain. Even in their first directing efforts, big stars like Rob-



Juliet Moret and Kevin Conway, in costume, with Al Pacino in his "Looking for Richard."



Kevin Bacon directing his wife, Kyra Sedgwick, in "Losing Chase"—"Running the show."

ert Redford, Warren Beatty, Jodie Foster, Mel Gibson, Kevin Cosner, Barbra Streisand and Clint Eastwood were generally given substantial budgets to work with. Mr. Hanks, with his good-size budget for "That Thing You Do!," is in their ranks. "Believe me," he says, "the suits at the studio certainly want to please me, and I was certainly aware of that very powerful hole card that I could play." But he adds that star power is not unlimited. "The idea that I would be able to hold a gun to the studio's head and say, 'I want to make this movie about entomologists who do heroin' and they would say, 'Sure, go do it.' It doesn't work that way." He says he has not decided whether he will direct another film.

Mr. Redford is scheduled to direct "The Horse Whisperer," and Mr. Eastwood is doing "Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil." Mr. Beatty, who made the unfortunate "Love Affair" in 1994, is directing "Bulworth." Ms. Foster, after a poorly received "Home for the Holidays" in 1995, plans to direct again after she finishes filming "Contact."

"The most common motivation behind these deals is that you wanted to keep up a relationship," says Mr. Bart. "Why let Mel Gibson direct 'The Man Without a Face'? You want to maintain a relationship with a superstar."

That investment has tended to pay off for the studios. Mr. Costner's first film, "Dances With Wolves" brought him an Oscar for best director and made \$184 million at the domestic box office. Mr. Gibson went on to win the Oscar for directing "Braveheart," his second film. "Dances With Wolves" and "Braveheart" were also, like Olivier's "Hamlet," named best picture of the year.

Except for Mr. Hanks, however, most of last year's crop of actor-directors were decidedly less than superstars. Many of them were given production deals by smaller studios. Why would a studio hand a movie to David Schwimmer? Because he has accumulated fans from the television show "Friends" and has name recognition with an ideal audience, age 15 to 30. Because he can presumably get other recognizable names to be in his low-budget movie, (Lara Flynn Boyle, Jon Stewart and Teri Hatcher will appear in "Dogwater.") And because his film will probably make money.

"In the made-for-cable and independent film arena, where most of these films exist, the producers are looking at the star value," Mr. Bart says. "They want to be associated with a star, and that in turn makes it easier to get funding together."

The trend is also a result of the current business dynamics of the movie industry: Actors are no longer contract players, tied up with a studio that decides what their next films will be. Few actors wait for good scripts to come to them. "Actors generate their own projects," says Harvey Weinstein, the co-chairman of Miramax. "They own material." Mr. Schwimmer brought his script to Miramax. Last year, Miramax had a success with another actor-directed film, "Flirting With Disaster," by Ben Stiller.

For smaller independent production companies, which have neither the clout nor the money to attract A-list directors, hiring a known actor is a way of hedging their bets. "It's always difficult to get the money," says Kiefer Sutherland. His 1993 directing debut, "Last Light," was paid for by the Showtime cable channel. "I said: 'You're giving me a million dollars. I'm going to deliver a whole movie for that and, with whatever status I have as an actor, you can sell that on home video.'"

Though box office success for this new wave of actor-directors has been hard to come by, the desire to direct is deep-seated among actors and not likely to disappear. "Being an actor on a movie means complaining about the way everything's going, and the vast majority of actors all do that," Mr. Hanks says.

But Ms. Salamon, who also teaches a film course at New York University, believes there is more behind the directing urge than just feeling stifled as actors. "I see students who have much more of a sense of the industry part of film making," she says. "They are more pragmatic, as opposed to being driven by a grand passion. And this current generation of actor-directors is part of an entrepreneurial generation, the same generation that produced a Bill Gates."

Then there is the understanding that some actors' careers are slowing down. That is what led the actress Christine Lahti to direct. Her first film, a short subject titled "Lieberman in Love," won her a best-director Oscar last year in the best-actor short-film category.

"For women past the age of 35, the parts just aren't there," she says. "I turned to directing by default." (The lag in her career reversed itself when she began appearing as a regular on the CBS series "Chicago Hope" last year.)

Had his career as an actor evolved differently, Mr. Tucci says, he also wonders if he would have felt as compelled to direct. "Had I gotten all the roles I wanted to get," he says, "maybe I wouldn't have given it a second thought."

The business itself, with its voracious appetite for new films and its aging corps of top directors, is also helping the process along. In 1996, the number of films that made it into general theatrical release increased by 16 percent, according to industry statistics. Yet hiring actors to direct remains a dicey proposition for studio executives. "A lot of studio executives bristle," says Mr. Weinstein. "They think if they give an actor a head of steam, he'll have too much control."

Typically financed by foreign investors and smaller production companies or, like Mr. Pacino's "Looking for Richard," paid for entirely by the actor, most of these movies have performed like the small, independent films they are. That is to say, modestly.

Directing is not a money train for actors either. Directing a movie, says Tommy Lee Jones, always cost him money. "I can make more at my day job," he says dryly. Mr. Jones directed "The Good Old Boys" for TNT in 1995 but recently decided to pass on the feature film "Third Down and Forever" because he wanted greater creative control.

Kevin Bacon, besides directing "Losing Chase" (which was produced by his wife, Kyra Sedgwick, who also starred), now has a starring role in Mr. Hutton's "Digging to China." Mr. Bacon says: "If you act, you're always working for the man. After a while, you want to have a chance at running the show."

He says actors have already learned and absorbed a great deal from making movies for 20 years, says Mr. Bacon, "and I hardly ever get a chance to be directed by someone who's had as much film experience as I have. I'm much more willing to take a shot with someone like Tim Hutton, who's been acting as long as I have, versus a writer."

Dissatisfaction is easy for actors to come by. "We all experience a certain amount of disappointment," says Mr. Estevez, whose "War at Home" failed at the box office. "I've felt the last few years as an actor that I was artistically bankrupt."

The nature of acting itself often breeds the desire to do something more challenging. Actors spend the bulk of their time following the director's instruction, saying the writer's words, interpreting the character's feelings.

"The thing about directing, from the moment you arrive you are involved, every minute of the day," says Mr. Hutton. "It's a complete use of your time, your mind, your judgment, your instincts."

director of "The Horse Whisperer," which he is also scheduled to star in.

Mr. Hanks says: "As an actor you're able to be moody and mysterious, to have your own way of working that everyone sort of respects because you're the actor and you don't have to explain anything to anybody. As a director, however, you have to be constantly telling people what you want. You have to be able to imagine it first of all, then you have to be able to verbalize it secondly. That's the antithesis of being mysterious and moody."

Mel Gibson, who has acted in and directed two films, says simply: "You can't do both for long or you'll die young. It's very punishing." Nevertheless last year's novice directors, almost without exception, cast themselves in their movies, à la Kenneth Branagh. Because wanting to direct, and finding the money to make a film, are two separate issues.

Rarely are the new actor-directed films financed by major studios. Mr. Hanks, a bankable star, was able to get just under \$30 million from 20th Century Fox to make his film. A budget of about \$5 million is more

typical. Down at the \$1 million to \$2 million level, any movie will most likely make money.

Still, getting the financing becomes something of a shell game. Mr. Estevez agreed to star in "D3: The Mighty Ducks" for no pay if Disney would put up a large portion of the money for "The War at Home." The studio agreed. "Disney came up with two-thirds of the \$4.5 million budget and got the North American rights," he says.

It is a given that you surround a first-time director with the best cinematographer, assistant director, lighting and casting people that a tiny budget can afford, according to Mr. Weinstein. "I've never seen an actor-director blow the acting," he says. "It's in the visual or editing, the technical side, where they might be a little weak."

Casting, on the other hand, often becomes a circle of friends. The films may be low budget, but A-list talent will often sign on as a favor.

"If you've had a life as an actor, that's where your friends are," says Mr. Jones, who turned to Sissy Spacek and Sam Shepard when he cast "The Good Old Boys." "I made that movie for \$5 million, and I certainly

could not have put that together and shot that movie if my friends hadn't said they would work on it."

Despite the pleasure of holding the reins, most actors don't find directing easy. Anthony Hopkins directed one film, "August," released last year, and told associates he didn't want to direct again. Jack Lemmon directed a well-received film in 1971, "Kotch," and hasn't directed since.

Ms. Salamon says, "The question really becomes, how many will hang in there for the long haul? An actor can jump on board a film and then be gone, but a director has to live with it for at least a year."

Mr. Hanks, however, reminds that it is a seductive world. "You look at the movie," he says, "and it is what you imagined and at the same time better than what you imagined."

One veteran actor-director agrees. "At some point you're standing on a stage presenting the movie to 500 people at a film festival," says Ms. Foster. "And you're the only one on the stage. It hits you — it was your vision all along, be that good, bad or indifferent. You are entirely responsible."

I WANTED TO BE A

BY MEL ROSEN / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

ACROSS

- 1 "It Be Magic" (Manilow song)
- 6 Country place for Yeltsin
- 11 16-Down, for one 16 Recipe amt.
- 20 Prefix with -pathy
- 21 Contemporary author Canin
- 22 Kind of cross
- 23 They get what's left
- 25 More about
- 26 Car in a Beach Boys song
- 27 Irregular
- 28 Longhorn rival
- 29 ... faith healer, but!
- 33 Cádiz Mrs.
- 34 "The heck with you!"
- 35 Large group
- 36 Cherish
- 37 Trig figure: Abbr.
- 38 Grenoble's river
- 40 It's good in Paris
- 42 Benchmarks: Abbr.
- 43 Exchange
- 48 Conoverplane, e.g.
- 49 Shipping bazaar
- 50 ... publisher of e. e. cummings's works, but!
- 55 Country singer Tillis
- 58 Each
- 59 "Shrovetide
- 60 Cheviots' artist
- 68 Cha, cha, cha, e.g.
- 69 Neologism
- 70 ... masseur, but!
- 78 Works into a passion
- 79 Cowboy gear
- 80 Multifield product
- 81 Combs
- 82 Collapses
- 83 Product of Sweden
- 85 Former chairman of CBS
- 90 Say "o'c'ale," e.g.
- 91 San ... Calif.
- 92 Eastern title
- 93 Violinmaker Amati
- 94 Address book info: Abbr.
- 95 ... mime, but!
- 99 Wasn't straight
- 100 Penny paintings
- 101 Releases, in a way
- 102 Runner Zatopek
- 106 Cover
- 107 Word on all U.S. coins
- 109 Misc. ending
- 110 Corelli composition
- 112 Office
- 113 Dismore the prig
- 115 Cousin of "ugh"
- 118 ... sumo wrestler, but!
- 124 Free
- 125 Disinclined
- 128 Tropical palm
- 127 Triangular peninsula
- 128 Minneapolis suburb
- 129 Big name in the metals industry
- 130 Do

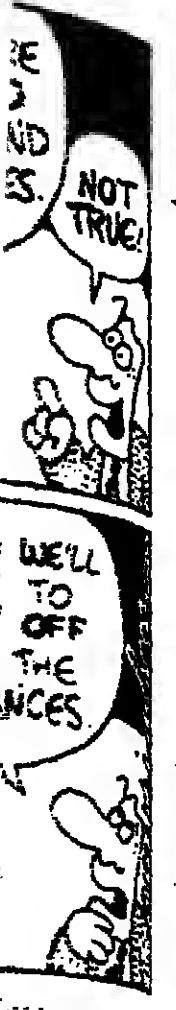
DOWN

- 1 Prepares to strike, maybe
- 2 March honor
- 3 Punic War city
- 4 National emblem of Wales
- 5 Quiz whiz Charles
- 6 On the safe side?
- 7 One of Pete Rose's records
- 8 Does gym-class exercises
- 9 Like Hannah's heart, in song
- 10 Connective tissue of prose
- 11 Warm-up act
- 12 Made without milk or meat
- 13 Thermosetting resin
- 14 Farmer's tool
- 15 On the safe side?
- 16 Massenet work
- 17 Sires
- 18 Official impression
- 19 Set an asking figure
- 24 Has the earmarks of 30 Figure
- 31 Daggers, in printing
- 32 Dancer Jeanmarie
- 38 Autostrada's place
- 39 Bribes
- 40 Word with date or trust
- 41 Slime
- 43 Moore starter
- 44 Intent
- 45 Polo grounds?
- 46 Field of honor fight
- 47 Suffix with differ
- 48 Badge of battle
- 49 Work on a whaling ship
- 51 River of Avignon
- 52 Retina layers
- 53 A as in Acre
- 54 "Mack the Knife" singer
- 55 Tree also called a custard apple
- 56 Bygone computer
- 57 It may be advanced
- 62 Extended
- 64 Tops off
- 65 Galley notations
- 66 Popular PC shooting game
- 67 Mid-month, in old Rome
- 68 Go downhill, in a way
- 69 Complain
- 70 Furnace button
- 71 Trace word
- 72 Swelter
- 73 Unit of data transmission
- 74 Casmerodius albus, commonly
- 75 Spied
- 76 Carpetlike
- 77 Slip
- 82 Like Hitler's "diaries"
- 83 Got wind of, old-style
- 84 Feels punk
- 85 Small songbirds
- 86 It stands for something
- 87 François Souchet's "Nude Lying on a
- 88 Fast piece
- 89 Have the — for 106 Puts in
- 91 Year in St. Leo IX's 111 Fine-tune
- 92 "No returns"
- 93 Vatican emissary
- 96 To whom the Kaaba is dedicated
- 97 4-H participant
- 98 Exhibits more stamina
- 102 Architectural suffix
- 103 Diamond elevations
- 104 AS — (from the beginning)
- 105 Many a novels watcher
- 107 Jutland resident
- 108 "Cosby" co-star
- 109 Puts in
- 111 Fine-tune
- 112 Slot
- 113 Kind of wheel
- 114 Road race maneuvers
- 115 Beat it!
- 116 Profit
- 117 "Die Lorelei" poet
- 119 Exuberance
- 120 Court plea, informally
- 121 Bullfighter's cloak
- 122 Aladdin, e.g.
- 123 To the (completely)

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

BOUND FANJETS MURKIN
 AROSE STEADUP INMARGE
 WILDA TRITTY OFFSPRING
 HODAD OED STYLES LIT
 ALI SPINES TITER STE
 WENTAT STRAHEMS EPIC
 SPULLET INTERNS CLINT
 SPANLET ACTIN GILLES
 PEFTEFOUNTAIN ALONE
 ORBS SOW NEUGATE OTO
 USA LARVAL SHAPES CAR
 TEY LIVONNO ERA BENE
 ELLEN FLORALSPRAYS
 METRES CADRE NANFRAS
 AXONS CINCHATI FANONS
 LOWS POOLTABLE TWEETS
 LOW RAUL TIERRA LAY
 TELLINTENTIONED DAVEL
 ENFORCE MARRING TWEET
 STEALER ENTENTE DEWTS

Handwritten signature or mark at the bottom of the page.



Queen Margrethe: My cooking won't kill you; my driving might. (Jerry Bergman)

Danes' beloved queen marks 25 years as monarch

Denmark's Queen Margrethe II, who tomorrow celebrates 25 years on Europe's oldest throne, heads a royal family remarkable for the affection and respect it commands in a fiercely egalitarian society.

Elderly suburbanites and inner-city punks can be seen on state occasions, waiting on freezing street corners for a glimpse of the queen, her 86-year-old mother Queen Ingrid, or the princes Frederik and younger brother Joachim.

Royal controversy is rare and mild compared to the scandals plaguing her cousins in Britain. The Danish queen's public smoking, and an affair between Crown Prince Frederik and a former underwear model, are about the spiciest items.

The smoking issue revived ancient enmities with neighboring Sweden this month when Swedish newspaper columnist Hagge Geijerstam slammed the Danish monarch for setting a bad example by lighting up in public places and "spreading poison around her."

Geijerstam said that the queen "puffed away freely" during a visit to asthmatic residents of an old people's home and he compared her unfavorably to Swedish King Carl XVI Gustaf, who also smokes, but only in private.

"Is it a sign of responsibility for the Swedish king to sink off to the toilets to have a drag on the sly?" the Danish tabloid *Ekstra Bladet* asked, in response.

Asked during the jubilee news conference to comment on her "smoking problem," the queen's response was terse. "I have no problem," she said.

On the other main issue of public interest, 28-year-old Prince Frederik's three-year romance with 26-year-old

Danish model Katya-Nielsen, debate was less concerned with the relationship itself than with the queen's reported opposition to the match. A poll showed unanimous public support for the prince's right to choose his own bride, and the *Politiken* broadsheet appealed to Margrethe in an editorial.

"The time for arranged marriages is past, and the monarchy will survive longer with a happy person on the throne. A mother's heart should understand this," it wrote.

But the heat of publicity and frost from the palace appeared too much for the lovers, and in October 1996 lawyers for the beautiful daughter of a provincial businessman issued a statement: "Katya Storkholm Nielsen hereby wishes to make it known that her relationship with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Frederik is terminated."

"Katya Storkholm Nielsen does not wish to discuss the matter further," it said.

Both Frederik and Joachim, who married Hong Kong economist Alexandra Manley in November 1995, are clearly adored by their mother, who peppers her conversation with references to "my boys," but they are far from pampered.

A high-speed car crash which injured both princes bought them a well-publicized reprimand from their mother in 1998, and the boys' father, French-horn Prince Henrik, does not refuse his reputation as a strict parent.

The most important thing in bringing up children is to help them get the best out of themselves.

If you really want to help your children you have to sometimes show them the harshness of life," he told journalists at the capital's Amalienborg Palace.

MARGRETHE became queen at the age of 31 on January 14, 1972, when her father King Frederik IX died after a two-week illness.

Thanks to a 1953 constitutional reform which amended the right of succession to include royal daughters, she became the first woman to ascend to the 1,012-year-old throne since the first Queen Margrethe was crowned in 1353.

A second cousin to Britain's Queen Elizabeth, she is also related, through the Greek royal family, to Prince Philip. Educated at two Danish universities and France's Sorbonne, as well as Cambridge and the London School of Economics in Britain, she once described herself as an eternal student. She is a capable artist who has designed sets and costumes for television and for the Royal Ballet. She has also illustrated a Danish edition of J.R.R. Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings*.

Asked by a journalist if she had also mastered more mundane skills, such as driving and cooking, she said that she was a reasonable cook but had not driven herself for so long that she no longer had a valid license.

"Let me put it this way, my food wouldn't kill anyone but I'm not sure that you would survive my driving," she said.

Jubilee celebrations are relatively modest. Tomorrow's activities are restricted mainly to family and other Scandinavian royals, with a Thanksgiving service and official banquet.

The highlight of the anniversary for the public will be a January 15 carriage procession through Copenhagen escorted by a troop of cavalry, and a televised gala performance from the Royal Ballet in the evening. (Reuters)

Better the god you know

Studies suggest that education can bring unaffiliated Jews back to the fold. Ronda Robinson reports from Knoxville, Tennessee

It looks like the perfect Christmas service: the church decorated with white poinsettias, congregants in their red finery standing and swaying to carols, an interpreter for the deaf translating the music into sign language. After the singing ends, the congregation calls its pastors to the dais to honor them with a "love offering" — kind words and a Christmas bonus.

So what's strange about this picture? Well, three of the inner-city church leaders are Jewish — or were born Jewish, and they have accepted Jesus Christ as the messiah.

"I was born a Jew, I didn't change my religion. I simply changed my relationship with Christ," Steve Fatow, the 48-year-old senior pastor who found Jesus at age 22, says during the service. He recalls the glory of celebrating his first Christmas after always having felt cut off, as a Jewish boy growing up on Long Island, New York.

really a half-sister, would have a pancake breakfast on Christmas morning, by the tree. Does that tell you anything about how un-Jewish I was raised?"

As a child, Bristein participated in the Workmen's Circle youth league. Her recollections of Judaism pertain to food: the smells of knishes and women baking for the bazaar. In 1969 she hitchhiked to California and sampled a smorgasbord of happenings: yoga, meditation groups, Sufi dancing, communes. She happened to encounter "singing Rabbi" Shlomo Carlebach at one of the spiritual gatherings, and he later performed her wedding. "I just remember hear-



Puppeteer Judy Bristein's siblings were so un-Jewish, they celebrated Christmas.

Other members of his team at Trinity Church, a charismatic New Testament congregation, include pastors Neil Silverberg, 43, and Ed Rosen, 53. They share a generally secular background, although Rosen, before his bar mitzvah, laid tefillin and wore tzitzit.

This trinity of pastors are among a half-dozen or more Jewish-born church leaders in Knoxville, Tennessee. Two of them, a couple who headed the liberal Unity Church, moved on to other pastures. Still, other Jews by birth are married to ministers here, and many more have sought a rainbow of different religious and spiritual paths. The stream of "hyphenated Jews" passing through Tennessee's third-largest city has included Jewish-Sikhs, Jewish-Buddhists, Jewish-Mormons, Jewish-Baptists and Jewish-Unitarians. Many more simply remain unaffiliated with Jewish institutions. They fall into the 55 percent of American Jews whom the National Jewish Population Survey found belong to neither a synagogue nor a community organization.

ing him sing," she says. "It just kind of struck a chord and brought back memories." Carlebach's soulful melodies stirred a long-buried sense of roots.

But she didn't plant herself on Jewish soil for a long time. She and her husband moved to a famous commune in Tennessee and lived off the land. Their sojourns next led to a small city where her 3-year-old daughter would come home from a church nursery school and talk about the devil. "It wasn't too long after that we

"It is worrisome, particularly when we ask ourselves: 'Why are we concerned with the unaffiliated in the first place?'" says Dr. Egon Mayer, a member of the National Technical Advisory Committee on Jewish Population Studies that oversaw the 1990 survey. "We're partly concerned about continuity of institution, and of course we're also concerned about the state of self-understanding of people who are unaffiliated. But clearly, from the vantage point of institutional Jewish life, the fact that the majority of identifiable households are not part of the system is a source of concern."



Artist Arnold Schwarzhart explored everything from Zen Buddhism to Russian mysticism. (Knoxville News-Sentinel)

Mayer, executive director of the Jewish Outreach Institute in New York, notes that we tend to be just like our parents. At a conference on "The Unaffiliated Jew" sponsored by the International Institute for Secular Humanistic Judaism, in 1995, Mayer observed that childhood education and upbringing often herald adult choices. He said that "it turns out when you ask people how they identify themselves in comparison to how they were raised, many people say: 'Yes my parents were Jewish but they were both Communists,' or 'They were both Unitarians and that's how I was raised.'"

Mayer has a theory: age, marital status, and parenthood predict when Jews will return to the fold. "Nobody seriously thinks about 20-year-old college students as unaffiliated, even though they technically are," he says. "They're more likely to be what I would call pre-affiliated." He remarks that behavior changes with age. "About half the people who were unaffiliated before their 30s and before they were married had kids, have all of a sudden affiliated."

Artist Arnold Schwarzhart explored everything from Zen Buddhism to Russian mysticism. (Knoxville News-Sentinel)

moved to Knoxville," Bristein, a Realtor, recalls. "I felt at that point, because my second daughter was born, that the synagogue was top priority. Something clicked and we got involved very soon after."

Looking back on her reconnection with Judaism, she observes that with two young children, the family was ripe for the experience. "I think if you come in as a young family or as a single," she muses, "where you have other people that are in similar places as you, and you connect with them and do things together in a spiritual way, that can be very meaningful."

Rabbi Zalman Posner, whom the late Lubavitcher Rebbe sent South nearly 50 years

ago to head an Orthodox congregation, has noticed a similar pattern in Nashville, Tennessee. While more people have intermarried, more have balanced the seesaw by sending their children to Jewish day schools. "When it came to their children's identity, they made a pretty decisive turn — they want them to be in an intensive Jewish environment," he says. "That is an encouraging thing."

The rabbi divides unaffiliated Jews into two categories: those who abandon the fold altogether and those who leave their synagogue. The former bothers him. He explains: "It's Judaism that becomes a point of concern. If they leave the congregation there can be a thousand different reasons, social reasons, personal reasons, the rabbi, all different kinds of reasons."

After World War Two, North Americans broke their ties to old Jewish communities in the center cities, he notes. The exodus to the suburbs meant children lacked the connection with a broad Jewish life that earlier generations had. "So what was a tremendous achievement for the parents who grew up in the 30s, in the Depression years, and their determination that their children were going to have a better world, was a marvelous thing," Posner says.

"Their kids are going to go to college, get every degree that they want and go into professions. And they're going to have financial security, which is very nice, when you compare it to not being hungry, not being worried about a job," Posner continued. But the children, who have a car at 16, a TV set in their bedroom, and access to a ritzy country club, realize that life must offer more. They explore other paths, thinking classical Torah Judaism has nothing to offer.

An example is Judaica artist Arnold Schwarzhart, who investigated possibilities varying from Zen Buddhism to Russian mysticism. He was born in Russia in 1942 to a family more committed to social justice than religious observance. "I grew up in a house where a nice ham was tradition. My parents went to shul on High Holidays only, but no other time," says the past president of his synagogue in Knoxville.

The turning point came when he discovered Jewish mysticism. A student of philosophy, physics, zoology, and chemistry who earned one of his two undergraduate degrees in architecture, he was always entranced by the big questions. "I think mysticism concerns itself with the big questions," explains Schwarzhart, "like why we're here, is there some sort of order to the universe? Is there the notion of other realms of existence? Is there the notion of a divine source of everything?"

Ironically, his studies of Jane Roberts' Seth material — information believers say is channeled from the other side — laid the foundation for his growing Jewish education. "It represented a vocabulary and a context from which I could then approach the Jewish mystical literature," he says.

Schwarzhart and his wife, Mary Linda, keep a kosher home, host large Shabbat and festival dinners, attend services regularly, study Jewish texts, stay active in a variety of Jewish organizations, help bring scholars-in-residence to town, and serve as the force behind a Talmud Torah class that has met for years. This, from a man who once found contemporary Judaism dry as dust and barren of spiritual insight.

Rabbis and lay leaders say such an encounter with Jewish education can help stem the tide of drifters. As Mayer reports, of Americans with nine or more years of Jewish education, 37 percent remain unaffiliated, as compared with 69 percent of those with no Jewish education. Posner says Judaism contains the fire the unaffiliated often seek in other quarters; if only they knew to look. "It's both emotion and brains," he says of the heritage. "It's hands and feet. It's everything. The total person is involved."

Rabbi Yehoshua Kahan, former religious leader of Knoxville's Conservative synagogue who now serves as assistant director of a Safed-based learning center, adds: "There's a kabbalistic idea of gathering up the sparks that were trapped in the bushes, trapped in the stifled places throughout the world. Those sparks are ideas. Those sparks are souls. Those sparks are Jews who've come and gone."

"That doesn't mean everything they come back with is kosher or can be made kosher. But it's not the case that Jews who have been elsewhere have to come back with their tail between their legs. Rather, their experiences and their ideas may lend new insights to Jewish teachings and practices."

EARTHLY CONCERNS

If you've never tasted caviar, better do it soon

By DVORA BEN SHAUL

For centuries, caviar has been a symbol of luxury. At a cost of up to \$2000 a kilogram, it is not surprising that the roe of certain types of sturgeon has always been outside the budgetary possibilities of all save the most affluent members of the population.

But marine biologists and other scientists warn that the present generation may be the last to savor this world-renowned delicacy — this world-renowned delicacy — not because it will be too expensive for any but the most affluent, but because there most likely won't be any caviar left.

In a report issued last month, the wildlife trade monitoring arm of the Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF) said that if sturgeon fisheries are not given extremely rigid protection, then within another decade or so caviar may become a thing of the past.

About 90 percent of the world's caviar is produced by just three species of sturgeon in the Caspian Sea, among them the most prestigious caviar of all, the Beluga sturgeon. But the Caspian Sea is becoming more and more

polluted each year, and catches of sturgeon have already fallen 75 per cent in the past decade. The lowered catch rate has only led to even more extensive hunting of this food source.

TRAFFIC also warns of the danger of pollution that has apparently drastically lowered the breeding rate, so that not enough young sturgeon are being hatched to replace the ones caught. Laboratory analyses of shipments of Russian and Iranian caviar purchased from retailers in London showed concentrations of DDT, PCBs, and mercury in all samples analyzed.

One of the problems, says Paul Toyne, a biochemist with the World Wildlife Fund, is that the concentrations are not high enough to pose a danger to the consumer, but seem to be high enough to render the fish either sterile or at least to severely lower their reproductive capacity.

Sturgeons take anywhere from six to 25 years to achieve sexual maturity, depending on food supply, water temperature, and variations in sub-species. As more and more hunting besieges these fish, younger and younger specimens are caught and killed, only to be

found without roe and of no use to caviar processors. In addition, since the fish mature at such an advanced age, they have plenty of time to accumulate even small amounts of these pollutants in their tissues.

The restrictive practices of the former Soviet Union kept sturgeon hunting under severe control since the sturgeon were considered a national resource that brought large amounts of foreign currency into the country. Since the break up of the USSR a virtual anarchy has reigned in the sturgeon fishing areas and there is virtually no control over the size or condition of sturgeons taken.

A few attempts are underway by the WWF in growing sturgeon under controlled, pollution-free conditions, but it will be years before anyone will know if they have succeeded or not. In the meantime, the degradation of the sea and the dwindling sturgeon crop threatens to wipe out this luxury food. While the absence of caviar will have little effect on the starving millions in the world, it will certainly be missed by some, not only for its delightful taste, but for its value as one of the world's great status symbols.

TO GERSHN

- Tales of People of Zjemin

True story-telling - in the tradition of the shtetl - from the town of Zjemin, 30 miles northeast of Minsk, to South Africa and America, through tales told by cousins, the many great-great-great grandchildren of the patriarch of the Shifrin family. Fascinating reading, an unusually well done "family saga." Illustrated with photographs and drawings. Softcover, 304 pp.

JP Price NIS 49.00

To: Jerusalem Post Books, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000

Please send me TO GERSHN - Tales of People of Zjemin. Enclosed is my check, payable to The Jerusalem Post. Credit card orders accepted by phone/fax.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Code _____


Tel. (day) _____

For airmail abroad, please add NIS 19, and list gift recipients' names and addresses separately.

The Jerusalem Post & ZOA House

Friday Morning Forum

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS



DAVID BAR-ILLAN

Prime Minister's Senior Policy Adviser

FRIDAY, 24th JANUARY 10:30 a.m.

ZOA House, 1 Daniel Frisch, corner Ibn Gvirol, Tel Aviv.

Admission NIS 10

early booking: ZOA House Tel. 03-6959341

Moderator: Tom O'Dwyer

Foreign Editor, The Jerusalem Post

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Monday,
January 13, 1997

The Jerusalem Post

BUSINESS

in brief

\$750 million worth of bonds for sale

Israel hopes this week to sell \$750 million of bonds, backed by US guarantees, the Finance Ministry confirmed yesterday. Treasury director-general David Brodetsky and other senior officials are in the US to implement the sale. Israel hopes to raise \$2.7 billion over the next two years. *David Harris*

December job-seekers up by 5,200

The number of job-seekers rose by 5,200 in December to 129,700, the Employment Service announced yesterday. This is a 7.1% increase after seasonal adjustments. During the final quarter of last year, 69,555 people registered for the first time with the service, but the overall number dropped by 58,556 in the same period. *David Harris*

NIS 5.2 b. spent on civilian R&D

National expenditure on civilian research and development totaled NIS 5.2 billion in 1994, according to statistics published last week by the Central Bureau of Statistics. That figure amounted to 2.3 percent of the Gross Domestic Product. *David Harris*

Bank Leumi expects growth

Leading investment bank BZW, which is based in London, forecasts Bank Leumi's earnings will continue to grow in 1997, despite an expected slowdown in economic growth. In a report on the country's second largest bank, BZW said "earnings growth should be driven by a new dynamic and lean management team with a clear strategy for increasing efficiency, levels of service and profitability." *Galit Lipkis Beck*

Cables of Zion, Cvalim begin merger talks

By GALIT LIPKIS BECK

Cables of Zion, a subsidiary of Clal Industries, and Cvalim, controlled by Ofer Brothers Investments, are in preliminary discussions to merge, Clal said in a notice to the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange yesterday.

Cables and Cvalim are among the country's leading cable and wire manufacturers. Due to competition from foreign manufacturers, which has hindered the local market's earnings, the firms are considering the possibility of merging activities in an attempt to increase market share and benefit from economies of scale.

Clal made the announcement in reaction to reports that a merger agreement had already been reached. Published reports claim Cvalim will control 60% of the merged company and

Cables the remaining 40%. The merged company will reportedly be managed by Cvalim general manager Miki Goldschmit while the chairman will be Yuli Ofer. There will be no exchange of funds.

In the announcement, Clal said appointment of a general manager to the company has not yet been decided upon.

Assuming an agreement is reached, the merged company will have nine plants, five of Cvalim and four of Cables. The net worth of Cvalim is estimated at NIS 311m, while the net worth of Cables amounts to about NIS 177m.

Cables and Cvalim showed disappointing results in the third quarter of 1996.

Cables registered an operational loss and reported a 26% drop in sales, to NIS 57.5m. Cvalim, which reported a sharp decline in profits, announced a 30% drop in sales, to NIS 81.4m.

Trade deficit for 1996 at \$10.5 billion, up 4% on '95

By DAVID HARRIS

The country's total 1996 trade deficit totalled \$10.5b., up \$430m., or 4 percent on the previous 12 months, according to figures published yesterday by the Central Bureau of Statistics.

Israel's exports to the Palestinian Authority stood at \$1.55 billion last year, with \$235 million imported, giving a \$1.315b. trade surplus. This is the first time that the PA has appeared on Israel's annual trade balance-sheet.

This increase in the deficit is considerably

smaller than those of the previous two years. The deficit increased \$2.8b. (38%) in 1995, and \$1.2b. (19.5%) in 1994.

Imports reached \$29.6b., 5.7% higher than in 1995, after increases of 20% in 1995 and 16% in 1994.

Meanwhile, exports brought in \$19.1b. last year, a 6.5% rise on the previous year, following increases of 11.5% in 1995 and 14% in 1994.

Since the end of the first quarter last year, imports, excluding ships, airplanes, diamonds, fuel and trade with the PA, have been

shrinking at a monthly average 0.6%, compared to monthly increases of 1% to 2% during 1995. Exports registered a monthly 0.4% increase, compared to the monthly 0.8% increase in 1995.

Of the \$29.6b. imported, excluding trade with the PA, some 25% (\$7.2b.) comprised diamonds, fuel, ships and airplanes, together with raw materials at 45%, machinery and industrial vehicles at 17%, and consumer goods, 13%.

Exports, excluding the PA, totalled \$19.1b., 68% of which were industrial

exports, excluding diamonds, 26% diamonds, 4% agricultural goods, and 2% software.

Imports totalled \$2.6b. in December, a third of which came from diamonds, together with fuel, ships and airplanes. A further 40% was from the import of raw materials, 16% investment goods and 11% consumer goods.

Exports in the month, came to \$1.63b., 74% of which were industrial exports, 5% agricultural, with the remainder diamonds and other goods.

Manufacturers: Worst industrial quarter in 7 years

By GALIT LIPKIS BECK

The local industrial market suffered a slowdown in sales in the third quarter of 1996, its worst quarter in the last seven years, the Manufacturers Association announced yesterday. There was also a decrease in productivity and number of people employed in the sector.

A survey of 180 companies in the industrial sector indicates there will be a continued drop in earnings from exports in the first quarter of 1997, despite an increase in export sales.

Industrial firms also forecast a continued decline in local market sales and a drop in investments in the first quarter, said Suki Abramovich, director of the association's economics division.

Twenty-five percent of those surveyed do not have investment plans for the near future while 20% have plans for the next three years. In the fourth quarter of 1996, 47% of manufacturers reported a decrease in local market sales, including 15% that reported a significant drop, especially in textiles.

Thirty-five percent of those surveyed reported a growth in

exports, compared with 25% that registered a drop. Abramovich said the improvement was due, among others, to seasonal factors.

According to the survey, 56% of the exporters reported an erosion in profits, including 15% that reported a significant drop. Only 6% of the exporters reported an increase in earnings from exports.

In the reported period 41% of all firms reduced production, while 30% increased production. Thirty-one percent of all firms reduced their workforce, compared with 14% that hired more workers.

Zim, Bezeq, Israel Chemicals, likely to top privatization list

By Jerusalem Post Staff

Senior civil servants will today present the government privatization program to a ministerial committee for approval.

The list of state-firms to be sold off this year will most likely include Israel Chemicals Ltd., Zim Israel Navigation Company Ltd. and Bezeq.

The committee, comprising Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Finance Minister Dan Meridor and Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi, will hear an outline of the proposals.

Prime Minister Netanyahu's Office deputy director-general Moshe Leon and Government Companies Authority director-general Tzipi Livni.



Tzipi Livni

The timetable for privatizing El Al is still unclear. A team headed by Leon and Transport Ministry director-general Nahum Langenthal is scheduled to publish its report on the issue today.

Faced with huge anticipated 1996 losses, many close to the company and senior government officials are questioning whether

the company can be sold at all during the next four years. The company is predicting \$100 million in losses when it publishes its annual report in April.

One possibility for the company, according to sources in the Prime Minister's Office, is to sell its assets individually, leaving the core company for sale at some future date.

Meanwhile, Leon's vision of insisting Bank Hapoalim sell its assets in Clal and Koor before privatization seems likely to falter, with Leon himself admitting "this could cause a delay in the sale of the bank, and that is the last thing I would want to be responsible for."

Merhav, Salem sell 50% of joint Israeli-Arab oil venture

By DAVID HARRIS

Merhav Mfr. Ltd. of Israel and the Hussein K. Salem Group of Egypt have both sold 50 percent of their interests in an oil refinery, currently under construction outside Alexandria, to the Egyptian General Petroleum Corporation. This means EGPC has now acquired 60% of the \$1.2 billion refinery project, which is the largest Arab-Israeli joint venture to date.

Until the sale went ahead, late last week, both Hussein K. Salem and Merhav owner Yossi Masman held 40% of shares, but have now reduced their investments from \$360 million to \$180m. each.

The refinery will produce an estimated 100,000 barrels a day, or 5 million tons of crude oil a year. Two-and-a-half times the amount Israel annually imports from Egypt.

Hapoalim: Company profits will fall in '97

By Jerusalem Post Staff

Bank Hapoalim economists place a high investment priority on investments in large to medium-sized companies with a high growth potential in Israel and abroad, particularly those in the chemicals, food, marketing or insurance sectors.

The bank yesterday published a forecast of the performance of the stock market in 1997. The economist expect a continued drop in firms' gross profit margins and operating profits this year, reflecting a continued erosion in the currency rate, relatively high real-interest rates and intense market competition.

Assuming the economic situation improves, the bank expects financial statements for the first six months of 1997 to show an improvement in corporate profitability and for share prices to rise.

The factors which affected the share market in 1996, mainly political and economic developments, are expected to continue to influence trading this year, said Hapoalim. The bank does not expect any major political breakthroughs in 1997, adding that progress in this

area is an essential precondition for the development of a favorable long-term investment share market.

Assuming the government goes ahead with its economic program, the analysts expect a positive impact on the market. But the economic slowdown which commenced in 1996 is expected to continue to hinder many companies' performance.

Referring to the different sectors of the economy, the analysts forecast the chemical sector will benefit from investments of about \$500 million made last year. The food sector is expected to benefit from the signing of partnership agreements between local and overseas food manufacturers, but some companies will suffer from higher competition in the market.

Marketing chains' sales are expected to grow in 1997, despite competition and the expected slowdown in private consumption, said Hapoalim, adding that this will mainly hinder the smaller chains. The large insurance firms are expected to continue to control the market this year and reap increased earnings, mainly from the life insurance sector.

Want to keep in close touch with your securities till 11 PM?



JOIN US TELEBANK DIAL 03-5199111 FROM 8AM TO 11 PM ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK

TARGET OZRU (מטרה)
Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents

Date: 9.1.97
Purchase Price: 161.15
Redemption Price: 158.76

למאני פיא leumi pia

PRIME פריים
Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents

Date: 9.1.97
Purchase Price: 114.82
Redemption Price: 113.33

למאני פיא leumi pia

DON'T BE LEFT OUT!
If you don't have e-mail or even a computer you can still advertise!

INTERNET POST CLASSIFIEDS
Reach all of Israel and the world for just:

- For Two weeks \$13 US Dollars/NIS 45
- One Month \$25 US Dollars/NIS 88
- Two Month \$45 US Dollars/NIS 158
- Three Months \$70 US Dollars/NIS 245
- Six Months \$130 US Dollars/NIS 458

List category and sub-category.

Message: _____

Don't forget your contact address /phone /fax /e-mail in your message.

Fax this form: In US & Canada, 212-599-4743
In Israel & the rest of the world: 972-2-531-5622
or place your ad directly on our web site at <http://www.ipost.co.il>

Name: _____
Address: _____
Credit Card No. _____
Exp. date: _____ Card type: _____
Tel No. _____ Fax No. _____
e-mail address: _____

NO TELEPHONE SUBMISSIONS

For current information on securities in Israel and the U.S. including high-yielding U.S. government-backed debentures, call:

M.H. MEYERSON & CO., INC. *Founded 1900*

A Publicly Traded Company
NASDAQ Symbol: MEHY
Brokers & Dealers in Securities Underwriters

525 Washington Blvd.
Jersey City, NJ 07302-0260, USA

Corporate and Institutional Inquiries:
Jeffrey E. Meyerson, V.P.
International Banking Division
1-201-459-9511
Fax: 1-201-459-9499

Retail Customer Inquiries:
Eric J. Logan, V.P.
National Sales Manager
1-201-459-9500 • 1-800-888-8118
Fax: 1-201-459-9510

Our specially trained sales personnel will be available to discuss your investment needs.

THE JERUSALEM Network POST
AACI Business and Professional Forum and The Jerusalem Post

The Eye of the Storm
The Dynamic of Change in the World of Corporate Media

with
Jeff Barak, editor of The Jerusalem Post
Dr. Yoram Perry, former editor of Davar

Israel is on the cutting edge of the information revolution. Join other English-speaking professionals for coffee and cake as we learn how these two men navigate change in major news media.

When: Monday, February 3. Registration 5:30 to 6:00 p.m.
Where: Beit WIZO, 38 David Hamelech St., Tel Aviv
Cost: AACI members NIS 30, non-members NIS 50

Advance registration (with payment) by January 27. NIS 5 surcharge for at-the-door payment. Space limited. Priority will be given to participants who register in advance.

For information and registration, call the AACI at 03-629-9799.

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patoh (foreign currency deposit rates) (11.9.96)

Currency (deposit for)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	4.750	5.000	5.375
U.S. dollar (\$50,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$100,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$200,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$500,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$1,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$2,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$5,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$10,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$20,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$50,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$100,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$200,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$500,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$1,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$2,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$5,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$10,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$20,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$50,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$100,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$200,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$500,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$1,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$2,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$5,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$10,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$20,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$50,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$100,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$200,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$500,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$1,000,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$2,000,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$5,000,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$10,000,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$20,000,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$50,000,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$100,000,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$200,000,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$500,000,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$1,000,000,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$2,000,000,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$5,000,000,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$10,000,000,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$20,000,000,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$50,000,000,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$100,000,000,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$200,000,000,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$500,000,000,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$1,000,000,000,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$2,000,000,000,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$5,000,000,000,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$10,000,000,000,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$20,000,000,000,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$50,000,000,000,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$100,000,000,000,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$200,000,000,000,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$500,000,000,000,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$1,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$2,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$5,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$10,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$20,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$50,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$100,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$200,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$500,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$1,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$2,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$5,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$10,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$20,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$50,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$100,0			

Key Representative Rates	
US Dollar	NIS 3.2490
Sterling	NIS 5.4983
Mark	NIS 2.0581

Austrian gov't sells stake in flagship bank Creditanstalt

By KURT ENGELMANN

VIENNA (Reuters) - Creditanstalt CABV was sold to arch-rival Bank Austria yesterday, ending a seven-year battle over control of Austria's flagship bank and sending shockwaves through the financial sector.

A visibly relieved Chancellor Franz Vranitzky told reporters after an 11-hour crisis meeting of coalition leaders of his Social Democratic Party and the conservative People's Party that Bank Austria had put in the best bid for the state's 70 percent voting stake in Austria's second biggest bank.

"I can tell you that the state's stake in Creditanstalt will go to the highest bidder, which is Bank Austria," he said, closing the chapter on a sale which deeply divided the coalition and raised the spectre of a government collapse.

The 141-year-old Creditanstalt, former banker to the Austro-Hungarian empire, will retain its independence for the next five years. Over the same period, market leader Bank Austria will be taken out of public control step by step. Full privatization of Austria's top bank, controlled by the City of Vienna and

partly state-owned, was a key demand of the conservatives. They had threatened to team up with the far-right opposition in parliament against a sale to what they described as a "socialist" banking dinosaur.

Finance Minister Viktor Klima, who was in charge of the privatization, said Bank Austria would offer Creditanstalt's small shareholders an extra two schillings (NIS 0.9) per ordinary share to buy the 30% of voting shares not yet owned by the state - a premium of 0.3% over their market price.

It was the first emergency session of coalition leaders since a snap general election in December 1995 and it took place in an atmosphere of mutual recrimination over the sale. Klima, eager to get Europe's longest-running privatization project off his desk as fast as possible, said he would rush to his office immediately and put his signature on the contract.

"The transaction will be closed immediately, I will go to my office right now and sign the contract," he said.

According to the coalition agreement, the state's 19% stake in Bank Austria will be floated immediately, while the 45% stake held by the City of Vienna's Antelverwaltung

Zentralsparkasse (AVZ) foundation is to be cut to below 20% within seven years.

The reduction of AVZ's stake would be achieved through a series of capital increases in which the foundation would not take part, Klima said.

People's Party leader Wolfgang Schuessel, who lost his battle to keep Creditanstalt firmly in the conservative camp but scored on a number of side issues, said it had not been easy for his party to agree to Bank Austria as the winner. "This was a very hard but also a very good round of talks. The decision wasn't easy for us," he said after the meeting.

The two banks will have combined assets of about 14 billion schillings and control a major part of Austria's retail and wholesale banking market. Together, they hold wide-reaching interests in the country's key industries.

There was no immediate statement from an international consortium of industrial and financial interests led by insurer EA-Generali, which had submitted a rival offer. It was outbid by Bank Austria by about two billion schillings. A Creditanstalt spokesman told Reuters the bank had not yet been informed about its new owner.

Stocks near three-year high

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

Robert Daniel



Shares closed in on a three-year high yesterday, buoyed by a report last week that investors were again putting money into funds that manage partly tax-exempt savings plans.

Leading shares higher were Elbit Ltd., Leumi Insurance Holdings, Bezeq, IDB Holdings and the major banks.

"There's a definite influx of money coming from the mutual funds," said Oren Meytes, senior analyst at Menorah Securities.

At the same time, trading is relatively low. Three years ago volumes were reaching an inflation-adjusted NIS 500 million, he said.

Investors also are watching for Wednesday's report on the consumer price index, which will give them a clue about whether the central bank will cut interest rates, Meytes said.

The Two-sided Index of 100 leading issues advanced 2.05 percent to 232.26, while the Maof Index climbed 2.15% to 240.66. The Maof was last this high on February 6, 1994, when it closed at 245.1.

Across the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, NIS 170.1m. of shares traded, 13% over the month's daily average of NIS 150.6m. and more than twice December's average NIS 84.6m.

Leumi Insurance was the most active issue, trading NIS 29.4m. of shares. Leumi Insurance, trading for the first time and exempted from the normal daily limit of 10% up or down, jumped 61.5% to NIS 2.33. The company was spun off from Bank Leumi and Africa Israel Investments Ltd.

Shares of Elbit, the producer of computer-networking and electronic textile-inspection equip-

Gold gets boost from US jobs report

Commodities Roundup

Precious metals futures closed mostly higher Friday, benefiting from sharp gains in US non-farm payrolls.

The December non-farm payroll data increased 262,000, with the unemployment unchanged at 5.3 percent. December average hourly earnings rose 6 cents to \$12.05, which suggested moderate inflation and prompted some players to do light buying, an analyst said.

Floor sources also mentioned that gold's trade was "impacted by Friday's expiration of COMEX options. Traders attempted to keep February gold as close to the \$360 strike price as possible. After making good gains on concerns that exports from Russia may be limited, March palladium futures closed slightly lower.

London's tube may be sold

LONDON (Reuters) - Britain's Conservative government plans to privatize London's underground railway network if it wins the next general election, the Independent on Sunday said.

It said a firm commitment to sell off the network, which has 260 stations and total assets worth £13 billion (NIS 75 billion), would figure in the Conservatives' manifesto if the next election was held before May 1.

"It is true that work is at an initial stage in the department on taking forward ideas for securing further private sector involvement in the London Underground system," said a Department of Transport spokesman.

The Conservative Labor Party, currently well ahead in the opinion polls, vowed to fight the idea. Labor mounted a long campaign against the recent privatization of the country's rail network, saying the results so far had been disastrous.

Shadow transportation minister Glenda Jackson said the reported plans for selling off the underground, or "tube," was "an attempt to drive the final nail into the coffin of public transport in this country."

Labor sources said the party would focus on the issue in the southeast of England since it believed it would be a vote-winner with the 2.5 million commuters who use the system every day.

Seoul faces reform struggle

SEOUL (Reuters) - The government of South Korean President Kim Young-sam, battling striking workers over labor reform, will also face a struggle to implement the financial restructuring needed to boost the economy, analysts said.

President Kim said last week the heavily controlled financial sector urgently needed reform to bring it in line with global trends. He said a Committee for Financial Reform would be set up to draft proposals aimed at improving competitiveness. But analysts said at the weekend Kim would face stiff opposition from powerful bureaucrats.

"Allmighty government officials will not give up their control easily," said Koo Kyung-ho, a senior economist at Dongwon

Seoul faces reform struggle

Economic Research Institute. Lee Hahn-ku, president of the Daewoo Research Institute, said: "Financial reforms have been a buzzword since Kim's inauguration in 1993. But the refreshed call for reform shows Kim has done little so far to improve the financial industry."

Government officials said initial measures, including a cut in red-count rates, would be taken to lower interest rates and later more sweeping steps would be implemented, such as the scaling-back of business barriers among financial institutions.

Economists have said mergers and acquisitions in the financial sector would eventually be allowed to assist a further market opening.

Kohl mulls VAT hike

BONN (Reuters) - Chancellor Helmut Kohl's Christian Democrats (CDU) said Saturday they supported discussions on a rise in value added tax which could help to reduce supplemental wage costs as well as fund a tax reform.

Peter Hintze, general secretary of the CDU, told a news conference at the end of a two-day party leadership meeting that the CDU would discuss how to use the funds once the government tax and pension commissions make their proposals. The CDU position contrasted with that of its sister party in Bavaria, the Christian Social Union (CSU), which argues a rise in VAT should be used to fund the government's planned sweeping tax reform for 1999, but should not be used for other purposes.

HUSSEIN

(Continued from Page 1) would be leaving the region last night. This decision was made since the Palestinians had yet to put forward a counterproposal and the Ross talks in Cairo on Saturday were deemed to be unsuccessful.

Arafat's cabinet said in a statement on Saturday: "The talks are close to a dead-end."

Hussein arrived in Gaza City late afternoon by helicopter, was welcomed by Arafat and whisked by limousine to his seatfront office, where a band played the Jordanian and PA anthems.

It was Hussein's first visit to Gaza since 1967 and the first by an Arab head of state. It was also the first visit by a foreign leader to Gaza that was not a side trip after a visit to Israel.

Hussein met with Arafat at Ross's urging.

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Multi-sided trading				Two-sided trading			
Company	Price	% Change	Volume	Company	Price	% Change	Volume
Bank Leumi	182.00	0.0	1000	Bezeq	110.00	0.0	500
Bank Hapoalim	175.00	0.0	800	Leumi Insurance	2.33	61.5	200
Bank Mizrahi	160.00	0.0	600	Elbit	170.00	0.0	400
Bank Discount	150.00	0.0	500	Bezeq	110.00	0.0	500
Bank Hapoalim	175.00	0.0	800	Leumi Insurance	2.33	61.5	200
Bank Mizrahi	160.00	0.0	600	Elbit	170.00	0.0	400
Bank Discount	150.00	0.0	500	Bezeq	110.00	0.0	500
Bank Hapoalim	175.00	0.0	800	Leumi Insurance	2.33	61.5	200
Bank Mizrahi	160.00	0.0	600	Elbit	170.00	0.0	400
Bank Discount	150.00	0.0	500	Bezeq	110.00	0.0	500
Bank Hapoalim	175.00	0.0	800	Leumi Insurance	2.33	61.5	200
Bank Mizrahi	160.00	0.0	600	Elbit	170.00	0.0	400
Bank Discount	150.00	0.0	500	Bezeq	110.00	0.0	500
Bank Hapoalim	175.00	0.0	800	Leumi Insurance	2.33	61.5	200
Bank Mizrahi	160.00	0.0	600	Elbit	170.00	0.0	400
Bank Discount	150.00	0.0	500	Bezeq	110.00	0.0	500
Bank Hapoalim	175.00	0.0	800	Leumi Insurance	2.33	61.5	200
Bank Mizrahi	160.00	0.0	600	Elbit	170.00	0.0	400
Bank Discount	150.00	0.0	500	Bezeq	110.00	0.0	500
Bank Hapoalim	175.00	0.0	800	Leumi Insurance	2.33	61.5	200
Bank Mizrahi	160.00	0.0	600	Elbit	170.00	0.0	400
Bank Discount	150.00	0.0	500	Bezeq	110.00	0.0	500
Bank Hapoalim	175.00	0.0	800	Leumi Insurance	2.33	61.5	200
Bank Mizrahi	160.00	0.0	600	Elbit	170.00	0.0	400
Bank Discount	150.00	0.0	500	Bezeq	110.00	0.0	500
Bank Hapoalim	175.00	0.0	800	Leumi Insurance	2.33	61.5	200
Bank Mizrahi	160.00	0.0	600	Elbit	170.00	0.0	400
Bank Discount	150.00	0.0	500	Bezeq	110.00	0.0	500
Bank Hapoalim	175.00	0.0	800	Leumi Insurance	2.33	61.5	200
Bank Mizrahi	160.00	0.0	600	Elbit	170.00	0.0	400
Bank Discount	150.00	0.0	500	Bezeq	110.00	0.0	500
Bank Hapoalim	175.00	0.0	800	Leumi Insurance	2.33	61.5	200
Bank Mizrahi	160.00	0.0	600	Elbit	170.00	0.0	400
Bank Discount	150.00	0.0	500	Bezeq	110.00	0.0	500
Bank Hapoalim	175.00	0.0	800	Leumi Insurance	2.33	61.5	200
Bank Mizrahi	160.00	0.0	600	Elbit	170.00	0.0	400
Bank Discount	150.00	0.0	500	Bezeq	110.00	0.0	500
Bank Hapoalim	175.00	0.0	800	Leumi Insurance	2.33	61.5	200
Bank Mizrahi	160.00	0.0	600	Elbit	170.00	0.0	400
Bank Discount	150.00	0.0	500	Bezeq	110.00	0.0	500
Bank Hapoalim	175.00	0.0	800	Leumi Insurance	2.33	61.5	200
Bank Mizrahi	160.00	0.0	600	Elbit	170.00	0.0	400
Bank Discount	150.00	0.0	500	Bezeq	110.00	0.0	500
Bank Hapoalim	175.00	0.0	800	Leumi Insurance	2.33	61.5	200
Bank Mizrahi	160.00	0.0	600	Elbit	170.00	0.0	400
Bank Discount	150.00	0.0	500	Bezeq	110.00	0.0	500
Bank Hapoalim	175.00	0.0	800	Leumi Insurance	2.33	61.5	200
Bank Mizrahi	160.00	0.0	600	Elbit	170.00	0.0	400
Bank Discount	150.00	0.0	500	Bezeq	110.00	0.0	500
Bank Hapoalim	175.00	0.0	800	Leumi Insurance	2.33	61.5	200
Bank Mizrahi	160.00	0.0	600	Elbit	170.00	0.0	400
Bank Discount	150.00	0.0	500	Bezeq	110.00	0.0	500
Bank Hapoalim	175.00	0.0	800	Leumi Insurance	2.33	61.5	200
Bank Mizrahi	160.00	0.0	600	Elbit	170.00	0.0	400
Bank Discount	150.00	0.0	500	Bezeq	110.00	0.0	500
Bank Hapoalim	175.00	0.0	800	Leumi Insurance	2.33	61.5	200
Bank Mizrahi	160.00	0.0	600	Elbit	170.00	0.0	400
Bank Discount	150.00	0.0	500	Bezeq	110.00	0.0	500
Bank Hapoalim	175.00	0.0	800	Leumi Insurance	2.33	61.5	200
Bank Mizrahi	160.00	0.0	600	Elbit	170.00	0.0	400
Bank Discount	150.00	0.0	500	Bezeq	110.00	0.0	500
Bank Hapoalim	175.00	0.0	800	Leumi Insurance	2.33	61.5	200
Bank Mizrahi	160.00	0.0	600	Elbit	170.00	0.0	400
Bank Discount	150.00	0.0	500	Bezeq	110.00	0.0	500
Bank Hapoalim	175.00	0.0	800	Leumi Insurance	2.33	61.5	200
Bank Mizrahi	160.00	0.0	600	Elbit	170.00	0.0	400
Bank Discount	150.00	0.0	500	Bezeq	110.00	0.0	500
Bank Hapoalim	175.00	0.0	800	Leumi Insurance	2.33	61.5	200
Bank Mizrahi	160.00	0.0	600	Elbit	170.00	0.0	400
Bank Discount	150.00	0.0	500	Bezeq	110.00	0.0	500
Bank Hapoalim	175.00	0.0	800	Leumi Insurance	2.33	61.5	200
Bank Mizrahi	160.00	0.0	600	Elbit	170.00	0.0	400
Bank Discount	150.00	0.0	500	Bezeq	110.00	0.0	500
Bank Hapoalim	175.00	0.0	800	Leumi Insurance	2.33	61.5	200
Bank Mizrahi	160.00	0.0	600	Elbit	170.00	0.0	400
Bank Discount	150.00	0.0	500	Bezeq	110.00	0.0	500
Bank Hapoalim	175.00	0.0	800	Leumi Insurance	2.33	61.5	200
Bank Mizrahi	160.00	0.0	600	Elbit	170.00	0.0	400
Bank Discount	150.00	0.0	500	Bezeq	110.00	0.0	500
Bank Hapoalim	175.00	0.0	800	Leumi Insurance	2.33	61.5	200
Bank Mizrahi	160.00	0.0	600	Elbit	170.00	0.0	400
Bank Discount	150.00	0.0	500	Bezeq	110.00	0.0	500
Bank Hapoalim	175.00	0.0	800	Leumi Insurance	2.33	61.5	200
Bank Mizrahi	160.00	0.0	600	Elbit	170.00	0.0	400
Bank Discount	150.00	0.0	500	Bezeq	110.00	0.0	500
Bank Hapoalim	175.00	0.0	800	Leumi Insurance	2.33	61.5	200
Bank Mizrahi	160.00	0.0	600	Elbit	170.00	0.0	400
Bank Discount	150.00	0.0	500	Bezeq	110.00	0.0	500
Bank Hapoalim	175.00	0.0	800	Leumi Insurance	2.33	61.5	200
Bank Mizrahi	160.00	0.0	600	Elbit	170.00	0.0	400
Bank Discount	150.00	0.0	500	Bezeq	110.00	0.0	500
Bank Hapoalim	175.00	0.0	800	Leumi Insurance	2.33	61.5	200
Bank Mizrahi	160.00	0.0	600	Elbit	170.00	0.0	400
Bank Discount	150.00	0.0	500	Bezeq	110.00	0.0	500
Bank Hapoalim	175.00	0.0	800	Leumi Insurance	2.33	61.5	200
Bank Mizrahi	160.00	0.0	600	Elbit	170.00	0.0	400
Bank Discount	150.00	0.0	500	Bezeq	110.00	0.0	500
Bank Hapoalim	175.00	0.0	800	Leumi Insurance	2.33	61.5	200
Bank Mizrahi	160.00	0.0	600	Elbit	170.00	0.0	400
Bank Discount	150.00	0.0	500	Bezeq	110.00	0.0	500
Bank Hapoalim	175.00	0.0	800	Leumi Insurance	2.33	61.5	200
Bank Mizrahi	160.00	0.0	600	Elbit	170.00	0.0	400

Beckham goal sinks Spurs Pack breaks away to top Carolina

LONDON (Reuter) - David Beckham added another spectacular goal to his collection as Manchester United beat Tottenham Hotspur 2-1 yesterday to move second in the Premier League.

London-born Beckham, who trained with Tottenham as a schoolboy, sealed Spurs' F.A. Cup exit at Old Trafford a week ago with a superb free kick and struck again 14 minutes from time from 25 meters to deny the home side a precious point.

Beckham, set to be a crucial member of the England side in this year's World Cup qualifying campaign, had previously had a quiet afternoon in one of United's less impressive performances.

They went ahead in the 23rd minute when Norwegian Ole Gunnar Solskjær slid the ball home, rough justice on Spurs who saw Steven Iversen and Andy Sinton hit the United bar in quick succession.

A headed equalizer from Rory Allen in the 44th minute set up a potentially intriguing second-half, but it took Beckham's goal to enliven a game which contained seven bookings.

The midfielder collected the ball just inside the Spurs' half and strode forward before crashing a right-foot shot into the top corner. United now has 41 points, two behind Liverpool with a game in hand.

GREEN BAY (AP) - Playing on the frozen tundra of Lambeau Field, Green Bay beat second-year Carolina 30-13 in the NFC championship game Sunday to reach the Super Bowl for the first time since Vince Lombardi's Packers beat Dallas in the "Ice Bowl" 29 years ago.

This year's heroes were Brett Favre and Dorsey Levens, Antonio Freeman and Gilbert Brown, none born when Lombardi's last team gave "Tittletown, USA" its fifth NFL championship in seven seasons. This team, now 15-3, will head to New Orleans as the favorite over New England or Jacksonville to give the NFC its 13th straight title.

It was also a win for sentiment, sending 35-year-old Reggie White, the NFL's all-time sack leader, to his first Super Bowl.

The weather at 40-year-old Lambeau Field, where the Packers won their 18th in a row, wasn't as big a factor as expected.

It was 3 degrees F (-16 C) at gametime with a wind-chill of minus-17 (-27 C).

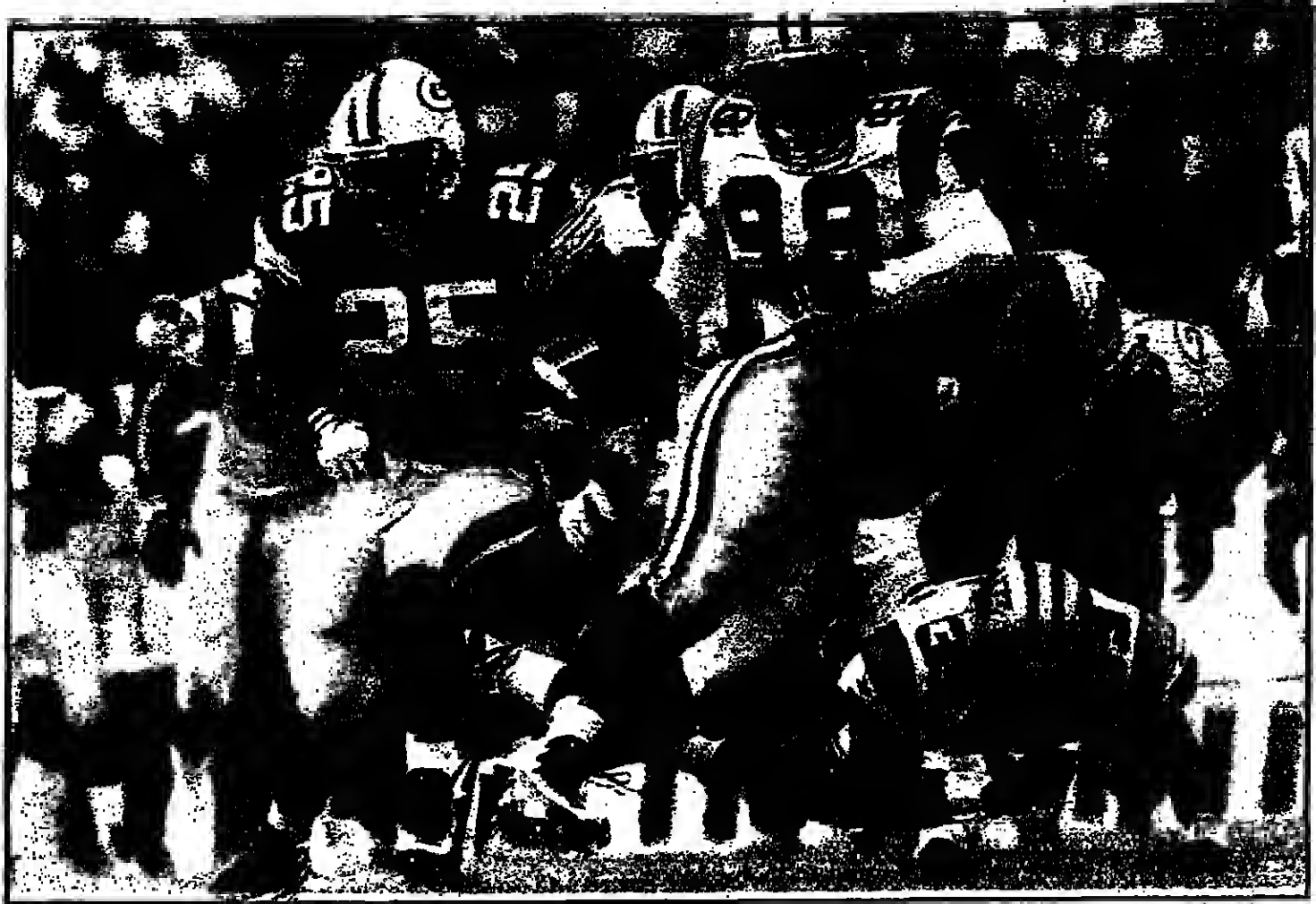
Favre, whose two turnovers helped Carolina to an early lead, was 19 of 29 for 292 yards, including touchdown passes of 29 yards to Levens and 6 yards to Freeman.

Levens had 205 total yards, 88 yards on 10 carries and 117 yards on five catches, including a 66-yard ramble with a screen pass that set up Edgar Bennett's 4-yard touchdown run.

This one was a contest for 29 minutes, or until the Packers scored 10 points within 38 seconds in the first half's final minute to turn a 10-7 deficit into a 17-10 lead.

They added three more on Chris Jacke's field goal on their first possession of the second half - 13 points in an eight-minute span in which Carolina had one offensive snap and put it away late in the third.

Without two Favre turnovers



LONG GAINER - Green Bay RB Dorsey Levens breaks away for a 20-yard gain in second-quarter action. The Packers beat the Panthers 30-13 to advance to the Super Bowl. (Reuter)

Hapoel Eilat enjoys net Gaines

By ELI GRONER

The National Basketball League resumed after its mid-season break last night with new additions coming on strong. Corey Gaines, Dennis Hopson and Roy Fisher were vital in Hapoel Eilat's, Givat Shmuel's and Ramat Gan's victories, while Maccabi Tel Aviv slaved off a late Herzliya charge to remain undefeated.

Hapoel Eilat 78
Hapoel Jerusalem 75

Amir Katz buried a three-pointer at the buzzer providing the southerners with a much-needed homecourt victory.

Katz's bucket capped an incredibly tight game that featured three lead changes in the final two minutes.

Gaines was in the middle of the action, scoring six points (21 overall) one assist and one steal in the final minute.

Twice it appeared that Eilat had tied the victory, but three-pointers by Adi Gordon and Papi Turgeman forced the game down to Eilat's final possession.

For Jerusalem, Motti Daniel and Billy Thompson netted 18 points apiece.

Maccabi Tel Aviv 80
Bnei Herzliya 74

The undefeated defending champions survived a scare by the indefatigable Herzliya club, as they barely held off the visitors.

With only 2:37 remaining, it was only a one-point game until Derrick Sharpe made a blind-side

steal and proceeded to drive the length of the court to convert a field goal.

Givat Shmuel 91
Hapoel Tel Aviv 68

Newcomer Dennis Hopson (23 points) gave the hometown fans plenty to cheer about, as he scored several fantastic baskets bringing General Manager Mickey Berkowitz to his feet. Dimitri Hill paced the Tel Avivians with 22.

Ramat Gan 92
Hapoel Holon 72

Ramat Gan thrashed the Holonites for the second time in a week. After defeating Niv Bugin's club by 24 points in State Cup play last week, Ramat Gan proved its superiority once more by routing Holon at home. Roy Fisher, in what might be his last game in Ramat Gan, tallied 22 points. Fisher is under immense pressure from his family to return to the US after last week's Tel Aviv bombing.

Tonight, Pelephone Galil Elyon will travel to Ra'anana with an opportunity to take over second place. The game will be broadcast live on Channel 5 at 8:30 pm.

that led to Carolina's 10 first-half points, this one went just as forecast.

"The team that can run will win," Favre said before the game.

Well, Green Bay did and Carolina didn't - the Packers running for 201 yards overall, the most against the Panthers this year.

Brown, meanwhile, sealed the middle, shutting down the Carolina run and forcing Carolina to do what it would prefer not to do - pass.

The Packers were running but the Panthers were leading, courtesy of an interception by Sam Mills off Favre that put the ball at the Green Bay 2 and led to Kerry Collins' 3-yard TD pass to Howard Griffith that made it 7-0.

Slam quarter-final at the 1996 Australian Open and then beat World No.1 Steffi Graf on her way to the final at the Italian Open. She

help him when he opens his defense of his Australian Open tennis title against Spaniard Carlos Moya.

The 29-year-old German, winner of six Grand Slam titles in his impressive career, took time out from his commitments at the Colonial Classic to watch Moya face Britain's Tim Henman in the final of the Sydney International on Saturday.

Moya lost in straight sets, but Becker expects he will still be in for a tough match at the National Tennis Center.

The Spaniard beat Becker in the first round of the Paris Indoors in November - their only previous meeting.

"To get to a final is a good achievement for a so-called clay courtier," Becker said. "I saw a few things he didn't do too well against Henman, but I also saw some things he did well."

Becker, who is seeded sixth, ended a five-year drought in Grand Slam tournaments by winning the Open last year and says he feels under absolutely no pressure.

He ended last year with five titles - including the Grand Slam Cup - and a place in the final of the ATP Tour Championship.

Becker lost to Michael Chang at the Colonial Classic after holding three match points, but says he's satisfied with his progress.

"My game has been getting better as the week goes on," he said Saturday.

If Becker wins the Australian Open, it will be his 50th career title, but the field is formidable despite several withdrawals.

World No.1 Pete Sampras and No.2-ranked Chang are seeded to meet in the final and both open against lowly-ranked foes.

Sampras, who is seeking the ninth Grand Slam title of his career, cheerfully admits he had never heard of Dinu Pescariu, a 22-year-old Romanian qualifier.

Pescariu is ranked 169 in the world and has never been higher than 133 in five years as a professional. Making the second round of the French Open in 1991 is the highlight of his Grand Slam career.

Chang will face lucky loser Kris Goossens of Belgium as he aims to win his first Grand Slam event since the 1989 French Open.

He made the semis in Melbourne in 1995 and the final last year, where he lost to Boris Becker.

Third-seeded Goran Ivanisevic of Croatia, an enigma who has never won a Grand Slam singles title despite his undoubted power and talent, begins against Australian wild card Ben Ellwood, while No. 5 seed Thomas Muster of Austria faces American qualifier Geoff Grant.

Hingis aims to be youngest Aussie Open winner

SYDNEY (AP) - Boosted by her victory at the Sydney International, Martina Hingis heads into the Australian Open with a confidence that belies her tender years.

The Swiss tennis prodigy, just 16, is seeded fourth for the Open, which starts today at the National Tennis Center in Melbourne.

Monica Seles, at 17 years 1 month in 1991, is the youngest Australian Open women's champion, but Hingis says she believes she has a chance of winning and is now much more at ease with the high-pressure atmosphere of the Grand Slam tournaments.

"I feel much more comfortable at the Grand Slams," Hingis said after beating American Jennifer Capriati 6-1, 5-7, 6-1 on Saturday to win her third WTA Tour tournament.

"I always like to play in Australia. I think I have a pretty good draw at the Australian Open, where World No. 1 Steffi Graf is

the top seed.

"I would like to win a Grand Slam tournament, that's my big dream for this year. I think I have

a good chance to make it."

Hingis is expected to move to No.4 in the world rankings following her Sydney win.

She reached her first Grand

Slam quarter-final at the 1996 Australian Open and then beat World No.1 Steffi Graf on her way to the final at the Italian Open. She

help him when he opens his defense of his Australian Open tennis title against Spaniard Carlos Moya.

The 29-year-old German, winner of six Grand Slam titles in his impressive career, took time out from his commitments at the Colonial Classic to watch Moya face Britain's Tim Henman in the final of the Sydney International on Saturday.

Moya lost in straight sets, but Becker expects he will still be in for a tough match at the National Tennis Center.

The Spaniard beat Becker in the first round of the Paris Indoors in November - their only previous meeting.

"To get to a final is a good achievement for a so-called clay courtier," Becker said. "I saw a few things he didn't do too well against Henman, but I also saw some things he did well."

Becker, who is seeded sixth, ended a five-year drought in Grand Slam tournaments by winning the Open last year and says he feels under absolutely no pressure.

He ended last year with five titles - including the Grand Slam Cup - and a place in the final of the ATP Tour Championship.

Becker lost to Michael Chang at the Colonial Classic after holding three match points, but says he's satisfied with his progress.

Ran lone Israeli in Open

Eyal Ran will be the only Israeli player in the main draw of the Australian Open. Ran, ranked 154 in the ATP Tour rankings, will play Justin Gimelstob (152) from the US in the first round in an evenly-matched battle. The winner is likely to play Byron Black from Zimbabwe (59) in the next round.

Last year Ran reached the second round, where he lost a four-set match to Australia's Mark Philippoussis. Of the Israelis in Melbourne, only Ran managed to pass the qualifying rounds. Eyal Erlich, Anna Smashnova and Hila Rosen all lost their first round qualifying matches.

Heather Chair

Horry traded to Lakers

INGLEWOOD (AP) - Robert Horry, recently suspended for throwing a towel in the face of Phoenix coach Danny Ainge, was traded to the Los Angeles Lakers in a four-player deal Friday that sent Cedric Ceballos back to the Suns.

Rumeal Robinson also went to Phoenix and Joe Kleine went to the Lakers.

It was the second major trade in 16 days for the Suns, who acquired All-Star guard Jason Kidd from Dallas last month.

CLASSIFIEDS

RATES

PRICES ARE AS FOLLOWS - All rates include VAT.

Single Weekday - NIS 128.70 for 10 words (minimum), each additional word NIS 12.87

18 DAY AND HOLIDAY EVE - NIS 195.90 for 10 words (minimum), each additional word NIS 19.59

MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY (package) - NIS 292.50 for 10 words (minimum), each additional word - NIS 29.25

WEEK RATE (6 insertions) - NIS 409.50 for 10 words (minimum), each additional word - NIS 40.95

FOUR FRIDAYS (package) - NIS 526.50 for 10 words (minimum), each additional word - NIS 52.65

MONTHLY (24 insertions) - NIS 994.50 for 10 words (minimum), each additional word - NIS 99.45

New Rates are valid until February 25, 1997.

DEADLINES OFFICE: Jerusalem - weekdays: 12 noon the day before publication; for Friday 4 p.m. on Thursday.

Tel Aviv and Haifa - weekdays: 12 noon, 2 days before publication; for Friday and Sunday: 4 p.m. Thursday in Tel Aviv and 12 noon Thursday in Haifa.

For telephone enquiries please call 02-5315544.

RENTALS

NEAR KING DAVID, sleeps 5, fully equipped. Tel: 972-2-587-0763, Fax: 972-2-587-0764.

BAKA, 5 BEDROOM, living/dining room, furnished, Jan. 28 - June 25 (top floor for less). Tel: 02-671-9340 (NS).

CENTRAL FULLY FURNISHED luxury 3.5 apart., short/long term. Tel: 032-62226.

RAMALLAH, 4 ROOMS, furnished + 2 balconies + private entrance. Tel: 02-995-1410 (Nabil or Jack).

GIVAT-ORANIM, 4.5 TERRACE, 1st floor, private parking, quiet, view, \$635,000. Shireen exclusive through ANGLO-SAXON. Tel: 02-625-1161.

2.5 MODERN, VALUE priced center. 5 year Tallie Kumi, elevator, delightful. Tel: 02-625-2971.

BARGAINI SHAREI HESOD, house, 3 bedrooms, luxurious, air conditioned, 320 m. + room, exclusive. Tel: 02-538-8348.

REHAVIAI 4.5, OFFICE/RESIDENTIAL/INVESTMENT, Ground floor, 2 entrances, \$289,000, BETTER BAYIT. Tel: 02-589-9345.

RAMOT, DAF HAYOMI St., 4.5 rooms, improved, garden, balcony, private entrance. Tel: 02-535-4950/1.

REHAVIAI 4.5, OFFICE/RESIDENTIAL/INVESTMENT, Ground floor, 2 entrances, \$289,000, BETTER BAYIT. Tel: 02-589-9345.

NETANYA, PARDESS HAGOOD, 5 room cottage + basement, no agents. Tel: 03-8626-402 (NS).

HERZLIYA PITUAH, 5 bedroom 21/2 tale, furnished/unturnished long lease MORAN REAL ESTATE. Tel: 09-957-2759.

HERZLIYA PITUAH, LUXURIOUS home + full duplex, possibility for pool. For sale / rent. Tel: 060-231-725, 09-955-2692.

BEAUTIFUL NEW 6 room house, Hod Hasharon, 295/520. Tel: 09-748-0460, 052-550874.

LUXURIOUS APARTMENT! FULLY furnished! Short / long terms. Tel: 03-605-5704, Fax: 03-605-0075.

3, MALHAI ISRAEL, luxurious + air conditioners, 5th floor + elevator. Tel: 03-751-9261.

IMMEDIATE, NORTH TEL AVIV

West, 3 rooms, balcony, possibly furnished, \$250,000. Tel: 03-6702451, 052-786925, 03-6782293.

PENTHOUSE, RAMAT AVIV, After Street, view, 230 sq. m. \$550,000. TELE-OUR. Tel: 03-642-1588.

PENTHOUSE, RAMAT AVIV, After Street, view, 230 sq. m. \$550,000. TELE-OUR. Tel: 03-642-1588.

TEL AVIV, 2 APARTMENTS, each 3 rooms, excellent location, bright, quiet. Tel: 03-645-9643.

DWELLINGS

Sharon Area

RENTALS

2 ADJOINING COTTAGES, beautiful, Rafanana, for long term, through Savat. Tel: 03-999-2536, 03-500-1424, 050-548-879.

NETANYA, PARDESS HAGOOD, 5 room cottage + basement, no agents. Tel: 03-8626-402 (NS).

SALES/RENTALS

HERZLIYA PITUAH, LUXURIOUS home + full duplex, possibility for pool. For sale / rent. Tel: 060-231-725, 09-955-2692.

SALES

BEAUTIFUL NEW 6 room house, Hod Hasharon, 295/520. Tel: 09-748-0460, 052-550874.

BUSINESS OFFERS

General

INVESTMENTS

EPRAT: ACTIVE PARTNER/SALE, popular and successful sweet/food shop. Tel: 03-993-2234, 02-993-1426.

BUSINESS OFFERS

Jerusalem

BUS. PREMISES

STORE FOR RENT

150 sq.m., parking, flexible hours, renovated, full purpose, \$2500/monthly. Tel: 050-393-464.

SITUATIONS VACANT

General

DANISH SPEAKERS WANTED (women only) High salary! Call Matena at 03-975-9253.

SITUATIONS VACANT

Jerusalem

HOUSEHOLD HELP

EXPERIENCED NANNY, 2 babies, Katanon, live-in, light housework. Tel: 02-561-7053.

SEEKING LIVE-IN, HOUSEWORK + childcare. Tel: 02-9831642 (NS).

SEEKING MOTHER'S HELPER, childcare + housework, English speaking, full time, live-out. 1 child. Tel: (02) 673-3226.

SITUATIONS VACANT

Tel Aviv

HOUSEHOLD HELP

IMMEDIATE FILIPINA to care for elderly woman (live in) Tel: 03-6415559

IMMEDIATE JOBS AVAILABLE, Intelligent families, best conditions, the agency with a heart for the Au Pairs. Call Hama Tel: 03-9659937.

HIGH SALARY FOR 1 child, good conditions. Tel: 03-560-9531.

WARM FAMILY SEEKS South African Au Pair, live-in, central Tel Aviv, \$750 200 NIS, immediate bonus. Tel: 03-820-1195, 052-452-002.

OFFICE STAFF

CLERK FOR LAWYER'S office, English mother-tongue, excellent word skills, flexible hours, knowledge of Hebrew. Tel: 03-527-1919.

FULL TIME POSITION OFFERED in a religious institution in Tel. Aviv area. Must be bilingual, computer literate. Some knowledge of basic bookkeeping, car essential. Tel: 050-459-319.

SITUATIONS VACANT

Dan Region

HOUSEHOLD HELP

KIRYAT ONO, SEEKING

household help, flexible hours. Tel: (03) 634-8151 / (03) 635-1888.

SITUATIONS VACANT

Sharon Area

HOUSEHOLD HELP

4 CHILDREN LOOKING for au pair, experience, Hebrew preferable. Tel: 09-767-8849, 050-553397.

SITUATIONS VACANT

Haifa and North

HOUSEHOLD HELP

EXPERIENCED HOUSEKEEPER for 2 times weekly, long term. Tel: 04-831-2771.

PURCHASE/SALES

Jerusalem

FOR SALE

BEAUTIFUL - YEAR OLD Scheches oven/range/stove/top, GE fridge, air conditioner, Miele washer/dryer, mirrors, hairdryer, plants, more. Tel: 02-843-9975 (NS).

PURCHASE/SALES

Tel Aviv

FOR SALE

HOUSE CONTENTS for sale. T.V. fridge, washing machine, microwave, bedroom and dining furniture. Tania. Tel: 03-613-6165.

VEHICLES

Jerusalem

UNRESTRICTED

ARIE PALOGUE - QUALITY CARS: buying, selling, leasing, trading. Tel: 02-5523735, 050-240977.

SELLING/BUYING? INSTANT CASH! Any car. Huge inventory. Bargains. Benvenet. Tel: 02-993-1493, 050-316715.

Brumer bound for trial with Man. Utd

By Derek Fattal

Gadi Brumer has been invited for a trial with Premier League champions Manchester United.

This is not the first time the Red Devils have expressed interest in acquiring Brumer. Last season Les Kershaw, United's senior scout, came here to watch Brumer in action in a friendly international fixture against Lithuania.

Brumer's current campaign has been hindered by injury but he eventually returned to the Maccabi

Lara steers Windies to win

PERTH (AP) - The West Indies pulled off a nerve-ringing four-wicket win yesterday over Australia to shut the home side out of the World Series limited-overs tournament finals for the first time since 1979-80.

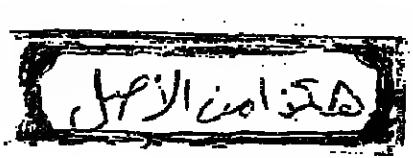
Set to make 268 runs to win, Brian Lara smashed a majestic 110-ball 90 runs to see the West Indies home with four balls to spare at the WACA ground.

SCOREBOARD

NHL - Saturday's results: Pittsburgh 3, Ottawa 3; Montreal 6, Boston 3; Washington 3, Philadelphia 3; N.Y. Islanders 4, Tampa Bay 4; Colorado 3, Toronto 2; Chicago 3, Detroit 1; San Jose 2, Edmonton 1; Florida 4, Calgary 1; Los Angeles 2, St. Louis 1.

NBA - Saturday's results: Toronto 123, New Jersey 106; Atlanta 87, San Antonio 82 (OT); Washington 98, Cleveland 85; Detroit 87, Utah 77; New York 112, Boston 99; Minnesota 95, L.A. Clippers 93; Chicago 110, Houston 86; Dallas 104, Denver 99; Seattle 92, Indiana 84; Sacramento 109, Vancouver 101.

EAST-WEST SHRINE - Saturday's result: East 17, West 13.



Rehov Bar-Ilan compromise may be in the works

By EVELYN GORDON

A compromise may be worked out whereby Jerusalem's Rehov Bar-Ilan will be closed on Shabbat in exchange for the reopening of nearby Rehov Yam Suf, following a six-hour hearing by the High Court of Justice yesterday.

In a surprise move, the compromise was proposed by the court's one religious justice, Tsvi Tal. Justices Aharon Barak, Shlomo Levin, Theodor Or, Eliyahu Mazza, Mishael Cheshin, and Dalia Dornier quickly backed it.

In light of this proposal, the court's ruling on whether Transport Minister Yitzhak Levy can order Bar-Ilan closed during prayer times on Shabbat will be postponed for another week or two while Levy examines the idea. Levy told the court that, since Yam Suf was closed by the city of Jerusalem rather than by the Transport Ministry, only the city could reopen it. However, he said, he would meet with city officials this week to get their opinions.

Most local road closures fall under the jurisdiction of the city rather than the ministry. Only major arteries such as Bar-Ilan are under the ministry's authority.

Even if Levy agrees, however, it is not clear the haredim will do so. "We will not compromise on Shabbat," said Deputy Mayor Haim Miller (United Torah Judaism). "The issue of [closing the road only during prayer times] is already a painful compromise for us."

Attorney Gershon Holtzer, who represents the Association for the Preservation of the Rights of the Religious and Haredi Community in Israel, said he considers the compromise unjustified. A real compromise, he said, would be for the secular to refrain from demands on Bar-Ilan, where they are a minority, while the religious refrain from demands in places like Beit Hakerem, where they are the minority. However, he said,

the haredim are also a majority on Yam Suf, so it is no different from Bar-Ilan.

Secular representatives, however, were largely positive about the proposal.

"It establishes the principle of reciprocity," said attorney Yossi Arnon, who represents petitioner MK Yossi Sarid (Meretz).

Tal's proposal was actually a response to Arnon's comments during the hearing. Arnon complained that Levy was closing Bar-Ilan "without a single move toward the secular," and that this was unfair, since "my freedom of movement... is no less important than the sanctity of Shabbat." An appropriate quid pro quo, he said, would be to open another road in exchange.

When Tal actually took him up on this, Arnon at first said it was not enough: There also had to be a promise that Bar-Ilan would be reopened at the first sign of haredi violence. However, he backed down after both Tal and Levy made it clear they did not accept this.

"A compromise agreement, like our peace accords, should not be held hostage to every act of violence [by an individual]," Tal said.

Levy, via government attorney Osnat Mandel, said that if there is violence, it should be dealt with by the police. He will reconsider his decision to close the road if the police, the city, or a government official asks him to do so, but otherwise he refuses to be influenced by violence, he said.

In response to the justices' questions - which Mandel discussed with Levy by phone during the break - Levy also promised that if Bar-Ilan were closed, alternative routes, such as Jaffa Road and the Ramot road, would remain open. Dornier in particular was concerned that Bar-Ilan would set a precedent for these other roads, which also pass through large haredi communities.

In addition, Levy said, the Transport Ministry is now consid-

ering the Zameret Committee's recommendations on a general mechanism for road closures. The proposal would leave such decisions to the local authorities, but would establish an appeal procedure to a public body.

Initially, the state had argued that Bar-Ilan should be closed during prayer times without any quid pro quo. None of the Zameret Committee members said the street could not be closed, Mandel noted; while some demanded the opening of public transportation on Shabbat in exchange, she said, this is an unrelated issue, as public transportation on Shabbat does not help those inconvenienced by Bar-Ilan's closure. Instead, it helps a different part of the secular population.

Furthermore, she noted, the committee's official decision is for a solution "within the framework of the status quo," and public transportation is not part of the status quo in Jerusalem.

Cheshin agreed that the inconvenience caused by the road's closure was minimal, but said he is concerned that it was being closed in response to violence. Levy, via Mandel, denied this. The decision was not influenced by violence, he said; it was a response to similar decisions by the Jerusalem city council and two public commissions (Sturm and Zameret), and numerous complaints by rabbis and neighborhood leaders.

"[Levy said that] in the entire time he has been dealing with the affair, he has not received a single complaint from a secular person who would be hurt by the road's closure," Mandel added.

The petitioners' attorneys, however, charged that Levy had taken what he wanted from the Zameret report and ignored the rest.

Liav Collins adds:

Meretz leader Yossi Sarid criticized the High Court decision, saying, "To make a compromise with the haredi establishment is like compromising with the Sicilian Mafia."



Moshe Arens (right) greets Labor Party Chairman Shimon Peres at the Likud party headquarters in Tel Aviv, where he arrived for the first time yesterday to take part in a debate on the system of direct elections for prime minister. (Dana Stern/Israel Sun)

Peres visits Likud HQ

By SARAH HONG

An unusual visitor paid his first-ever call on Likud headquarters at Mezuzat Ze'ev yesterday evening. Labor Chairman Shimon Peres was never before inside the central Tel Aviv building, but he was warmly greeted and generously applauded at what was until last night forbidden enemy territory.

Peres was invited by Chairman of the Likud Executive Bureau MK Uzi Landau to take part in a debate on the system of direct elections for prime minister.

Both Landau and Peres share uncompromising opposition to the system, which was tried out for the first time in last summer's elections in which the Likud's Binyamin Netanyahu beat incumbent Peres for the premiership.

The system was approved in Labor forums despite Peres' opposition, due to the insistence of prime minister Yitzhak Rabin. The Likud never backed the notion and Netanyahu in fact broke party discipline to support it.

Upon stepping through the entrance Peres reported he felt "just fine." In the shadow of the bust of found-

ing father Ze'ev Jabotinsky, he recalled that David Ben-Gurion and Jabotinsky conducted a dialogue and, in fact, even reached an agreement, which Labor rejected. That was back in 1935.

Since then, the political divide was so deep and unbridgeable that Peres, who flew to so many corners of the Arab world, never once set foot in this building on King George Street in the heart of old Tel Aviv.

If there was any unease about how he might be received, it was instantaneously dispelled as Peres was applauded upon entering the Independence Hall on the building's second story, where he proceeded to lambaste the new electoral system, to the undisguised pleasure of his host, Landau.

Arieh O'Sullivan adds:

Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, in his first ever comment on the possibility of a national unity government, said yesterday he was "not stuck to my chair."

"A national unity government is not on the agenda right now. When we come to other circumstances we will discuss it," said Mordechai.

Asked if he would be willing to give up his portfolio in the event a national unity government is formed, Mordechai answered: "I am not stuck to my chair."

'Swiss trucked Nazi gold into Spain'

NEW YORK (Reuters) - The Swiss National Bank, at the height of World War II, sent 280 truckloads of looted Nazi gold to Spain and Portugal in vehicles bearing neutral Switzerland's national emblem, according to a newly discovered US document released yesterday.

New York Republican Senator Alfonse D'Amato, whose Senate Banking committee has been probing Swiss-Nazi wartime dealings, released the "top secret" doc-

ument at a news conference, calling it a major archival discovery that deeply embarrasses the Swiss.

"For the first time since our inquiry began we have a document confirming that the Swiss were actively involved in shipping gold for the Nazis. This document proves that the Swiss claim of neutrality was pure nonsense," D'Amato said.

Meanwhile, Interior minister Ruth Dreifuss said yesterday the Swiss government would waste no

time in deciding on a memorial fund for victims of the Holocaust.

In an interview in the Swiss Sunday paper *SonntagsZeitung*, Dreifuss said the Federal Council (cabinet), was aware of the need to move swiftly and it was ready to take action.

"It is quite clear to the council that something has to be done fast," Dreifuss told the *SonntagsZeitung*. Dreifuss also repeated that the council was not planning to declassify recent remarks by economics minister Jean-Pascal Delamuraz, who had described calls for a quick Swiss restitution to Holocaust victims as blackmail.

"Normally the council as a col-

lective group does not correct statements made by individual members," Dreifuss said, noting such a move was out of part of the country's political custom. Most Swiss seem to agree the government should not denounce Delamuraz, nor should he resign, according to recent polls.

A survey by the Lucerne-based LINK institute, published by the *Blick* tabloid on Saturday, showed that less than one-third of the Swiss surveyed thought the government should distance itself from Delamuraz.

Another survey, by Sunday paper *SonntagsBlick*, showed that 80 percent of respondents did not think Delamuraz should resign, while 10% called for his resignation. Delamuraz's remarks, made as he was completing his one-year term in the rotating Swiss presidency, outraged Israeli politicians and world Jewish groups, who threatened to call a boycott against Swiss banks.

Nigerian seeks political asylum in 'any country'

A Nigerian radio journalist who has been detained here for 13 months awaiting deportation to Nigeria filed a second petition to Haifa District Court yesterday, demanding that he be allowed out of jail to arrange political asylum in any other country.

Eugene Waslo, 31, claims he would be murdered if he returned to Nigeria, since he was active there with a revolutionary group. In 1991, he said, he helped aid a rebel leader by giving information which led to their takeover of the radio station. However, government forces suppressed the rebels and anyone who was involved with the attempted coup is wanted by the authorities, he said.

Waslo escaped to the United States, where he married a Jewish woman. While in the US he worked in a post office and a night club. About a year and a half ago he went with his wife on a trip to Egypt and Israel.

After a year in Israel, he was given a deportation order. Waslo said he asked not to be deported to Nigeria, where his life would be in danger.

"I am asking that I be deported to any country in the world besides Nigeria but the Israeli government is insisting on deporting me to Nigeria," he said at his first hearing before Haifa District Court, after no country agreed to give him refuge.

In the July hearing, the state said the man's claims should not be ignored for humanitarian reasons; however, neither the Foreign Ministry nor the Interior Ministry have information regarding Waslo's alleged connections to the Nigerian opposition.

Judge Micha Lindenstrauss recommended at that hearing that the case be immediately investigated "due to the very long period of time the petitioner had been in detention."

In his second petition filed yesterday, Waslo complained he had been held for 13 months in jail here for no offense and all that he had been offered was to return to Nigeria.

Citing the special nature of the case, Lindenstrauss agreed yesterday to rehear the request in the next few days. (Itim)

Fencing team gets invitation from Iran

By HEATHER CHAIT and news agencies

The national fencing team says it has received an invitation from sworn enemy Iran to take part in an international fencing competition in Teheran.

Moshe Ben-Ezra, secretary-general of the Israel Fencing Association, said the invitation on Iranian Fencing Federation stationery arrived Friday in an envelope from the International Fencing Association offices in Paris.

The letter was signed by Mohammad Zadeh, vice-president of the Iranian federation.

An official in Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani's office, however, denied that the Israeli team had been invited to Teheran.

"Iran does not recognize the existence of Israel, so how can we invite a non-existing entity?" the official said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Ben-Ezra said tournament rules obligate host states to invite all countries belonging to the international association.

Ben-Ezra is convinced that Iranian officials knew the invitation would reach Israel, but does not believe visas will be extended to the Israeli team.

Now!
FELDHEIM PUBLISHERS

DUTIES OF THE HEART
Classic by 11th C. Scholar
Rabbi Bachya Ibn Pakuda, with new translation by Daniel Haberman.
Facing Hebrew and English.
2 vol., slipcased 960 pp. NIS 119.00

ERETZ HA-TZVI
Rabbi Tzvi Teichman
All the laws and customs pertaining to the Holy Land, for students, newcomers, tourists and residents. Clear explanations.
181 pp. NIS 35.00

ENCYCLOPEDIA TALMUDICA
Long-awaited 5th volume of this thorough survey of halachic literature & Jewish law, covers Brith Milah - Cagin Va'Alivuth. Includes Basar b'Halab, Berachoth, etc.
63 pp. + 604 col. NIS 135.00

THE ART OF TEACHING
Elaine Rubimoff, M.Ed.
Comprehensive, reader-friendly textbook - a must for every teacher, beginner or veteran
8 1/2" x 11" 304 pp. NIS 88.00

30 SECONDS TO EMOTIONAL HEALTH
Dr. Miriam Adahan's latest volume offers quick, long-lasting relief for anxiety, stress, family problems. A program that works.
280 pp. NIS 49.00

Available at better bookstores everywhere, or order direct from FELDHEIM, P.O.B. 35002, Jerusalem
Send check with order - we pay the postage

TORAT EREZ YISRAEL

This book marks the first time that Rav Tzvi Yehuda HaKohen Kook's lectures have been translated into English. His teachings on Torah, *Emunah*, *Ahava*, *Eretz Yisrael*, *Zionism*, the Holocaust, *Ga'ula*, and the *Mashiach*, bring the encompassing Torah of *Eretz Yisrael* into unparalleled light. The book's commentary brings the reader into the *Beit Mikdash* of Rabbi Kook, presenting an intimate understanding of his vision and the unique era of redemption which Rabbi Kook inspired the nation to see.
Translated by Zvi Fishman.
Hardcover, 387 pp.
JP Price NIS 55.00 inc. VAT, packing and postage

To: Books, The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000, Tel. 02-6241282
Please send me Torat Eretz Yisrael. Enclosed is my check for NIS 55 per copy, payable to The Jerusalem Post. Credit card orders accepted by phone.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
Code _____
Tel. _____

Major NEW Edition

THE CONCISE OXFORD DICTIONARY
Ninth Edition
The Concise Oxford Dictionary - Ninth Edition
15% more coverage
• Information on recent changes in spelling and usage
• Revised and expanded word histories
• New pronunciations
• Guide
• Appendix including proof-reading marks
Hardcover, 1674 pp.

JP Price:
Regular Edition: NIS 119
Thumb Index Edition: NIS 129
+ NIS 9 mailing in Israel

To: Books, The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000
Please send me THE CONCISE OXFORD DICTIONARY - Ninth Edition.
 Regular Edition Thumb Index Edition.
Enclosed is my check payable to The Jerusalem Post. Credit Card orders accepted by phone/fax.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
Code _____
Tel./Fax (day) _____
Signature _____

book department

PUZZLED ABOUT ISRAEL?

Now you and your family can put all the pieces of Israel together with this new 84 piece full color map of Israel puzzle. Finished size: 23x9 in. Recommended for ages 5 and up. A perfect anytime gift. Available in English or Hebrew.

Books, The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000
Please send me _____ copies of:
MAP OF ISRAEL PUZZLE at NIS 35 each
Postage in Israel: one copy NIS 6, two or more NIS 10 or airmail NIS 25 per copy

HEBREW ENGLISH Total NIS _____
Enclosed check payable to The Jerusalem Post, or credit card details. Please list gift recipient's name, address and message separately.

Visa Isr/MCD Diners AmEx

CC No. _____ Exp. _____
Name _____
Address _____
City _____ Code _____
Phone (day) _____ ID No. _____
Signature _____

ORDER BY phone: 02-624-1282 fax: 02-624-1212 e-mail: orders@jpost.co.il

JP Price NIS 35

התאחדות הישראלית